

WARM-UP

- What is something you kept on doing, even when it got hard? Can you tell us about it?
- Is there someone you trust who always tells the truth? Tell us about that person.
- What is something you feel you cannot live without?

WORD *⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."* **JOHN 6:66-69**

Jesus compared following Him to the experience of the Israelites as they wandered around the wilderness in the time of Moses. If they did not eat the bread that God had provided for them daily, they would not have survived all those years in the desert. In the same way, believing in Jesus is filling our souls with *food that endures to eternal life* (John 6:27). We are to eat of the living bread, Jesus, every day so that we could live (John 6:51). Jesus' own disciples found this hard to accept, so many of them left Him. A true follower of Jesus is called to live a life of sacrifice, fully trusting and obeying God. This means two things.

1 | A life of sacrifice means no turning back.

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. JOHN 6:66

(Read also **JOHN 6:60,65.**)

Jesus was talking to those who were already following Him when He introduced Himself as the living bread. However, when they heard something that was hard to accept, they left Him. When we decide to follow Jesus, this means we do not turn back from trusting and following Him, no matter how hard it would be to accept the truths He tells us. What is something God told you that was difficult to accept? How did you respond?
