

August 2, 2009  
18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

B

Exodus 16: 2 -4, 12 -15  
Ephesians 4: 17, 20 -24  
John 6: 24 -35

Jesus feeds the multitudes in last weekends Gospel. Today's Gospel of John 6: 24 -35 is the continuation of the story and logically the people want more food. Who among us would not want more food - if we had none? Without food or water we would all die.

Jesus and his disciples depart after the feeding of the multitudes. The people go searching for Christ, just as we must search for Christ and the word of God, too. But, when the people finally catch up with Jesus - he affirms to them that they are looking for him because "you ate the loaves and were filled" (v 26b). Thus, the meal they had just eaten - the miraculous multiplication of loaves and fishes - is actually "spiritual food" and is not carnal food. Christ advises the people to work for eternal food, too. In the end, Christ being the Bread of Life offers the only food that satisfies our hunger and thirst. But this food cannot be purchased. The Son of Man provides this food free and without cost, even to those we feel might not deserve or merit it.

190 words

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