the way in is the way on our destination is everlasting fulfillment

John 6

⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"

⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

Why would followers of Jesus walk away from him?

Context for John 6

- Jesus has been healing and teaching, crowds follow
- Feeding of the 5000
- Jesus retreats as the people want him to be king
- Disciples go back to Capernaum
- Jesus catches up with them by walking on water

John 6

²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal."

²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

Claim 1: The work is to believe

³⁰ So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Claim 2: I am the bread of life

⁴¹ At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴² They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

43 "Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered...

⁴⁷ Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life.

⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰ But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

⁵² Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

⁵³ Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. 56 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them..."

Claim 3: Everlasting life comes from

eating my flesh and drinking my blood

- ⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"
- Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before!
- ⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

The people could not accept:

- 1.) The type of work (not earning, but entrusting)
- 2.) The mechanism (not force, but sacrifice)
- 3.) The destination (not accumulation, but fulfillment)

the way on is always more of Jesus

John 6

⁶⁷ "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."

The Way In (Invitation)

Reflect on this:

What do you think about the "way on" being more of Jesus? Is Jesus enough?

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him. (Colossians 2:6)