



## BREAD OF LIFE Devotion

Someone once said, “My relationship with Jesus is like a bread and jam sandwich. He is the Bread of Life and it seems I’m always in a jam. Whenever we get ourselves in a jam we turn to God for help. In times of trouble it is easy to see our need for spiritual food. We hunger desperately for the Bread of Life that is Christ Jesus. We need to be assured of His love and forgiveness. But how are our souls nourished on a day to day basis? We all do a good job of making sure our body gets food each day, but it not so obvious to see that we are sometimes starving for spiritual food. Our focus today is on how Jesus, the Bread of Life, is working in our lives. *“I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never go thirsty.”* John 6:35. Using a bread analogy, let us take a look at ourselves.

### What spiritual “bread type” are you?

- **Banana Bread** – You like quick and easy devotion that require little effort, yet are satisfying.
- **Homemade Yeast Bread** – You get into God’s Word with diligence, kneading it thoroughly verse by verse. Then you let the thoughts sit and “rise,” pondering God’s will in your life.
- **Sliced Bread** – You feel sandwiched in by life’s many different demands. Time, like each slice, is quickly used up, leaving nothing but leftover heels of time with the Lord.
- **Unleavened Bread** – You judge yourself according to God’s law and see only your own deeds and shortcomings.
- **Manna** – Through the Word and daily prayer you are reminded of your dependence on God to provide His love and forgiveness.
- **Pita Bread** – You are eager to try something new and challenging. You enjoy attending Bible class or teaching Sunday School.
- **Bagel** – You feel like you are going in circles and getting nowhere in the same old routine.
- **English Muffins** – Morning devotions, along with a glass of “Sonshine” get you going each day.
- **Dinner Rolls** – Formal worship settings suit you best, but people must butter you up to get you involved.
- **Hamburger Bun** – You order your devotions to go, by listening to an audiocassette in the car or while jogging.

- **French Bread** – You feel a little stiff when it comes to sharing your faith.
- **Toast** – You will have a few burnt edges from where feelings have been hurt and are a little dry from lack of spiritual nourishment.
- **Croissant** – You enjoy being a little flaky and light-hearted because you know God has a sense of humor, too.
- **Biscuit** – You are happy to know God’s forgiveness covers us all like gravy and makes life easier to bear.
- **Blueberry Muffin** – You are bursting with the Good News of the Gospel because the Holy Spirit has recently brought you to faith.
- **Sweet Bread** – You are eager to share the sweet news of God’s love and forgiveness with others.

Do any of these sound familiar? We probably could find an assortment of bread types that would accurately describe each one of us. But no matter which type we relate to, we all have the assurance that in Christ Jesus we have life, and have it abundantly. *“For the wages of sin is death,” but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*” Romans 6:23

**Bread Machine Analogy** Have you ever used a bread machine? I think they are wonderful. All you have to do is dump everything into the machine and press the button. It does all the work. It mixes, kneads, warms, raises, and even bakes the bread for you. When it is finished, out pops a loaf of piping hot bread to perfection. Isn’t this the way God works in our lives? We dump all our sins, burdens, concerns and grief on Him. Jesus did all the work of redeeming us, paying the debt, fulfilling the law, and achieving our forgiveness. He then handed us the gift of perfection through faith in Him. He gives us this as a free gift. *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not by yourselves, it is a gift of God.”* Ephesians 2:8 As we focus on this amazing gift, let us always keep in mind that Jesus is the Bread of Life.

**Closing Prayer:**

Dear Jesus, We praise you for being our Bread of Life and giving the free gift of faith to each one of us. We thank you for your blood bought gift of forgiveness. Forgive us when we fail to nourish our hungry souls and feed on Your Word. Help us to stay steadfast in that Word that we may grow in our faith and service to you. Amen.

All Scripture is from NIV.

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