

Daniel Bishop

LEAD PASTOR

Deconstruction

JOHN 6

Jon Bloom

“It is a postmodern philosophical label that has been adopted by current and former evangelicals to sometimes mean

Fon Bloom

navigating a faith crisis, to sometimes mean identifying harmful cultural influences that distort the true gospel,

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to sometimes mean questioning and rejecting
traditional evangelical doctrines and authority figures,

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or to sometimes mean departing from
the Christian faith altogether.”

1

Consider **what you are deconstructing.**

John Mark Comer

"I don't believe God wants us to deconstruct our faith, but to deconstruct the fallacies in the world that come into the church."

Ephesians 2:20 (ESV)

You are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets.
Christ Jesus himself is the cornerstone.

Gallup's Annual Honesty and Ethics Survey

51% of Americans 55 years or older
have favorable views of church leaders.

Gallup's Annual Honesty and Ethics Survey
Only 24% of 18- to 34-year-olds said pastors
and clergy have "high honesty."

Jim Davis and Michael Graham, The Great Dechurching

"We're currently living in the largest
and fastest religious shift in U.S. history.

Fim Davis and Michael Graham, The Great Dechurching
Some 40 million adult Americans who used to go to church
at least once per month now attend less than once per year.

Jim Davis and Michael Graham, The Great Dechurching
This shift is larger than the number of conversions
during the First Great Awakening, Second Great Awakening,

Fim Davis and Michael Graham, The Great Dechurching
and the totality of the Billy Graham Crusades combined."

Roughly three-quarters of the people who left the church did so casually, for pedestrian reasons including moving,

the inconvenience of attending, kids' sports activities,
or family changes like marriage, divorce, or having a new child.

John 6:2 (ESV)

And a large crowd was following him,
because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick.

John 6:14 (ESV)

When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said,
"this is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

John 6:14 (ESV)

Perceiving then that they were about to come
and take him by force to make him king,

John 6:14 (ESV)

Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

26 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs,

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

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.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

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?”

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

29 Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

30 So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?"

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness;
as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven,

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

33 For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

34 They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me shall not hunger,

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

37 All that the Father gives me will come to me,
and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will
but the will of him who sent me.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

39 And this is the will of him who sent me,
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me,

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

but raise it up on the last day.

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

40 For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life,

John 6:25-40 (ESV)

and I will raise him up on the last day.”

2

Consider: **Your reason for seeking Jesus.**

Jeremiah 29:13 (ESV)

You will seek me and find me
when you seek me with all your heart.

Seek Jesus for who He is and not who you want Him to be.

John 6:27 (ESV)

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.

John 6:27 (ESV)

For on him God the Father has set his seal.”

John 6:28 (ESV)

28 Then they said to him, "What must we do,
to be doing the works of God?"

John 6:29 (ESV)

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

John 6:35 (ESV)

I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger,
and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

John 6:39 (ESV)

And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.

3

Consider: **Jesus will lose none of what God has given Him.**

John 6:39 (ESV)

And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.

John 6:40 (ESV)

For this is the will of my father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life,

John 6:40 (ESV)

and I will raise him up on the last days.

John 6:44 (ESV)

No one can come to me unless the father
who sent me draws them in.

John 10:27-28 (ESV)

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them,
and they follow me.

John 10:27-28 (ESV)

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish,
and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

4

Consider: Many of Jesus' disciples turned back and no longer walked with Him.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven,
so that one may eat of it and not die.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

And the bread that I will give
for the life of the world is my flesh.”

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying,
"How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

53 So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood,

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

55 For my flesh is true food,
and my blood is true drink.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

56 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood
abides in me, and I in him.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

57 As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father,
so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

58 This is the bread that came down from heaven,
not like the bread the fathers ate, and died.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”⁵⁹ Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

⁶⁰ When many of his disciples heard it, they said,
"This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

⁶¹ But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?"

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all.
The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

64 But there are some of you who do not believe.”

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

(For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.)

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

⁶⁵ And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

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

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the twelve,
"Do you want to go away as well?"

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him,
"Lord, to whom shall we go?"

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹ and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

70 Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve? And yet one of you is a devil."

John 6:48-71 (ESV)

71 He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray him.

John 6:64 (ESV)

But there are some of you who do not believe."

John 6:64 (ESV)

(For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.)

5

Consider: Do you want to follow Jesus, or do you want to walk away? Why?

John 6:66-69 (ESV)

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

John 6:66-69 (ESV)

⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the twelve,
"Do you want to go away as well?"

John 6:66-69 (ESV)
68 Simon Peter answered him,
"Lord, to whom shall we go?"

John 6:66-69 (ESV)

You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹ and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

Final Application Thoughts

People are going to question their faith and seek answers. That's normal and good.

Final Application Thoughts

Make sure your home is a place where questions are welcomed and your kids are not scared to bring up doubts.

Final Application Thoughts

The same is true for our church. Your questions and doubts are welcomed here and you will not be judged.

Final Application Thoughts

If you are in a crisis of your faith I know that can be scary.
You are not the only one who has been there.

Final Application Thoughts

John the Baptist questioned Jesus. Doubting Thomas questioned Jesus. King David questioned God many times.

Final Application Thoughts

However, when we seek God in our doubts,
we will find answers, gain clarity, and our faith will grow.

Final Application Thoughts

Be honest with yourself in your questioning.
Are you truly seeking Jesus with all your heart

Final Application Thoughts

or just critiquing the failures of those who hurt you
in the church or misrepresented it?

Final Application Thoughts

Get to the heart of why you are questioning Jesus and your faith. Lean into community. Seek wise counsel.

Final Application Thoughts

Studies are showing that out of the 40 million who have left the church, 8 million dechurched people are willing to come back.

Final Application Thoughts

It's not a matter of belief for them,
but of belonging.

Final Application Thoughts

People are waiting to be invited to a healthy church.
Who can you invite?

Del Tackett

“Truth is how God sees it, not how we see it.”

Final Application Thoughts

I heard one person say people are getting tired of Ted talks for a sermon and Coldplay for worship.

Final Application Thoughts

Poor spiritual teaching makes it easy for people to deconstruct.

Final Application Thoughts

It's our goal to bring strong biblical messages here at The Grove so we all have a firm foundation.

After hearing the words of Jesus in John 6? Are you ready to give your life to Him and follow, or are you ready to walk away? What will you decide? Decide to follow Jesus today.

Prayer

Come meet a prayer partner at the front.