

## Jn. 6:64-69 “To Whom Shall We Go?”

**For the Children:** Let us say you have arranged with a good friend to spend some time together. But another opportunity to go somewhere else comes up. Since you enjoy spending time with your friend, you pass on the other opportunity. Why would you choose to go somewhere that's not as good in place of being somewhere you really want to be? God creates in His children a love of being with Him. If you don't have faith, you won't understand that. If you have no faith, you don't enjoy worshipping God, reading the Bible, praying, being with other Christians. You'd rather be somewhere else, if you could. But if you have faith, there is no one you'd rather be with than the Lord Jesus, and no place you'd rather be than where He is. **Questions:** What other things do some people prefer than being with the Lord? Why did many disciples stop following Him? What are some of the things that are special about the Lord Jesus – things you would not find in anyone else?

---

### **Introduction:**

#### **First Point: Why Did Many Leave?**

- **Withdrawing Disciples:** Large crowds had followed the Lord, but He did not trust their motives (2:24-25). Soon, the leaders turned against Him, then some in the crowd, now even many of His disciples. They were offended by His teachings, or looking for a different kind of messiah. They stopped “walking” with Him, and returned to their old ways and views.
- **He Knew from the Beginning:** The teachings that caused many disciples to leave (“as a result,” v.66) included His claim that He was the Bread from Heaven (v. 41) and that not all Jews would receive this Bread; the teaching that faith was required (vss. 52, 60); and behind that, the fact that faith or lack thereof was predestined by God ((vss. 44, 65). Faith is a gift that must be granted by God. Because it was predestined, the Lord “knew from the beginning” who would/would not believe, and who would betray Him. Many throughout history have objected to these teachings. They are a blow to human pride.

#### **Second Point: Why Do We Stay?**

- **The Lord's Question:** There is much pressure on believers to withdraw as well. The Lord asks the disciples whether they will also go away – though He knows they will not. Like Mt. 16:13, 15, this question gets us to think about Who Jesus is, our relationship with Him, and why we persevere in the faith.
- **No Alternatives:** Peter answers, “To whom shall we go?” In other words, there is no viable alternative. When we understand who Jesus is, it is *unthinkable* to leave Him. He is the “Lord” (God), Creator, Ruler, the One who predestines all. No one else has done what He has done for us – died on the cross and sent His Spirit so we could receive the Bread from Heaven, and eternal life. There is no other Saviour. Moreover, apart from Him, there is no meaning in life or true satisfaction in it.
- **We Have Believed and Come to Know:** Those who go away deny these truths. We persevere in them because “we have believed and come to know.” The God who grants faith grants perseverance in it. Faith will not let us go, the Spirit who gives faith irresistibly keeps those whom He draws.

### **Conclusion:**