



Discussion Guide for “Bread & Circuses”

Bad Deal Week 2

We've all heard "You're not yourself when you're hungry." But what if the opposite is true? What if something as basic as hunger shows us our true selves? When we're not the masters of our desires, we will miss what God wants to do in our lives and in our world. Jesus shows us how to master our desires so we can be present to God.

Scriptures for Further Reading

Matthew 4:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:16-19; John 6:22-33

click here to [read all scriptures](#)

Read Dostoevsky's "[The Grand Inquisitor](#)"

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [John 6:22-69](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. Which of your basic cravings bring out your inner hulk?
2. Snickers says, "You're not you when you're hungry." But JR. said that our cravings reveal who we really are. Which is it? (And... what do your cravings say about you?)
3. Review Moses' words in Deuteronomy 6. Why does he warn against testing God?
4. Review Jesus' first temptation in Matthew 4. What are the "near" and the "far" aspects of this temptation?
5. Put yourself in Jesus' wilderness encounter in John 6. Who would you most likely be? What is Jesus' goal in this space?
6. What is God teaching you this Lent?