



# SPORTS IN FOCUS

*Unheeded Miracles*

John 5:1-6:71

## READY

- When did you suffer your worst sports injury? What made the injury most challenging?
- How do many people try to fill their spiritual longings?

## SET

### Context of John 5:1-6:71

This section of John's Gospel shifts from hesitation about Jesus as Messiah to outright rejection. The opposition begins with the controversy about Jesus' healing of the paralytic man on the Sabbath. Following the miracle, Jesus confronts the Jews' religious hypocrisy with clear statements about His Deity. In Chapter six, John records Christ's feeding of the five thousand which is the fourth "sign" in John's Gospel. The broad opposition to Christ intensifies in chapter 6, as many of His disciples turn away.

### Keys to Text

*Blasphemy:* The act of cursing, slandering, reviling or showing contempt or lack of reverence for God. In the Old Testament, blaspheming God was a serious crime punishable by death. The unbelieving Jews charged Jesus with blasphemy because they thought he was only a man, but claimed to be equal to God. *Signs:* The Gospel of John identifies eight miracles that point to the power of God behind them - miracles have no value unless they point to God and His truth.

## GO

### Read John 5:1-6:71

1. How did Jesus cure the paralytic man? What is important about this?
2. How did the Jews respond to this amazing miracle? Why?
3. What four witnesses did Jesus cite as testifying to His identity as the Messiah/Son of God? (see 5:31-47)
4. What was the reaction of the masses to Christ's feeding of the five thousand? How is this still a common response today?
5. Summarize in your own words what Christ meant when he said, "I am the bread of life." How have you experienced this?
6. Recount the time when you first came to Jesus and believed. How has He satisfied your soul?
7. According to John 6:37-44, 65, who is responsible for our salvation? What are the implications of this?
8. When in your life have you seen the greatest example of the power of God?
9. How has that strengthened your faith?

## SPORTS IN FOCUS SALVATION

Salvation is not through a creed, a church, a ritual, a pastor, a priest, or any other such human means—but through Jesus Christ, who said, "I am the bread of life," Jesus declared; "He who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." (6:35). The words come and believe are parallel, just as are hunger and thirst. Coming to Christ is believing in him, which results in no more hunger or thirsting. Other synonyms for believing in Christ include confessing Him, receiving Him, eating and drinking Him, and hearing Him.

Who are you praying will come to salvation in Christ?

What can you do this week to present Jesus Christ to your friends or teammates?