

"I am the Bread of Life" (John 6:35)

1. Background of Gospel of John
 - Original audience / readers of this book - 1st century AD in Asian Minor
 - Imperial cult - persecution on Christians
2. The significance of "I AM" statement
 - Comparison between book of Exodus & Gospel of John
 - Exodus 3:13~14
 - "I am who I am" - to assure Moses' mission to free his people from slavery
Knowing who God was vital for The Israelites
 - "I am who I am" - new perspective on Who God is compared to gods in Egypt
 - "I am the bread of Life"
 - Severe persecution against Christians even with Death penalty
 - I am the Bread of Life - new perspective on who God He is compared to other Roman emperors / deities
3. The setting / background of this statement : John chapter 6
 - Season : Near Passover
 - after feeding 5,000 people
 - implication : This bread reminds the unleavened bread to Jewish christians
4. Bread in Old Testament and its significance
 - Passover bread - unleavened bread - reminder of the urgency of God's deliverance
 - Manna in the wilderness - reminder of God's provision for daily life
 - Presence of Bread in holy place - reminder of the relationship with God
5. Significance of "I am the bread of life" to the original readers and now to us
The bread of life doesn't simply mean the daily food for living.
Under persecution in the first century AD, this statement - a great reminder of God's deliverance, God's provision, God's relationship to them.

Nowadays to us :

Are there something like Roman emperors that are forcing or enticing us to offer sacrifice ? Are there any fears, threats that are hindering us from worship God alone?

If so, what does "I the bread of life" mean to you?