

Highway

FIRST
TRIMESTER
2010



Looking at the New Testament through the “lens” of food

I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry. No one who has faith in me will ever be thirsty.

— Jesus (John 6:35)

This year’s 7th grade faith studies/life skills class – a.k.a. as “Highway 201” – will travel a slightly different route than any previous class. We aim to explore the New Testament with a special eye out for what it says about food, farming, and faith.

We begin with the assertion of Jesus that he is “the bread of life.” He then formed a new community based in the sharing of a meal. Jesus also taught using many food and farming-related stories and images. The eating and sharing of food continued to be an

important part of the life of the New Testament church. And in the book of Revelation Jesus proclaims: “I stand at the door and knock. If any hear my voice and open the door, **I will come in and eat** with them, and they with me.”

As we travel through the trimester we will learn about and sample biblical foods, asking “What did Jesus eat?”. We will begin a garden which, we hope, will eventually provide food for the TES dining hall. We’ll bake bread as we learn Jesus’ story of the leaven in the lump. We’ll learn about “factory farming” and the “industrialization” of food in the last 60 years. We’ll go gleaning as we study Jesus’ encounter with the Pharisees who were upset by the gleaning his disciples were doing on the sabbath. We’ll visit grocery stores and farmers’ markets. We’ll go to a

farm and witness the slaughter of a chicken! We will host guest speakers and presenters on a variety of food-related issues. We’ll ask and answer questions that will engage us in using a variety of life-skills – **AND** through it all we will learn about and engage with the New Testament and the God of creation!

Your teachers:

• Father Jacob •
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• Rev. Adams •
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• Mr. Burton •
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When in doubt, go to the
Quia website



Once again this year our class will be linked online to a website where students and parents can check homework assignments, find class-related activities and exercises, download helpful documents and articles, and find useful links. At no time should students be in doubt about what’s coming, what’s due, or what’s expected. They’ll hear it in class, but they can also check it at Quia. Here’s the address:

<http://www.quia.com/pages/highway201.html>