

## **FARTHER ALONG**

As preached on Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Read:** John 6:60-69

1. Have you ever come across a “hard teaching” in the Bible? What was it? What made it a hard teaching? How did you end up resolving the tension? (It would be easy to spend your whole small group discussion talking about these, but please leave time for the other questions because they’ll help with this one!)
2. What hard teachings are the disciples referring to in v.60? What do you think of Jesus’ response to them in vv.61-64?
3. In v.66 we’re told that many of Jesus’ disciples “turned back and no longer followed him.” What does their leaving say about them? About their understanding of who Jesus is?
4. In v.67 Jesus gives “the Twelve” (his inner circle of disciples) the chance to leave. Do you think he was concerned they might leave too? Why, or why not?
5. Peter responds on behalf of the whole group in vv.68-69. What is significant about his answer? Does his answer express faith/belief in Jesus?
6. On Sunday we talked about the power of “staying” in the faith even when challenging teachings and experiences coming along. What do you think of this idea? What benefits does it provide?
7. Sometimes the simple passage of time (being farther along) can bring answers to the questions we struggle with the most. How do you think this concept applies to our faith in God and our experience of living in this world?