



The Fullness of Hunger

Matthew 5:1-6

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Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

**6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness,
for they will be filled.**

A collage of various fast-food items including pizza, fried chicken, burgers, fries, and appetizers. The image is centered around a black rectangular box containing the text "You Are What You Eat".

**“You Are What
You Eat”**





Opening Question

As we Enter 2025:

How are you doing
Spiritually?

Are you hungering and
Thirsting for God?



Dear Austin

‘I still haven’t found what I am looking for.’

“That theme might be the theme of my life. I think I have achieved all that I have hoped for... I have a beautiful home, nice cars, married to a great woman, two young kids that I adore, I have great health.

And yet **I am just not as happy as I think I should be.** I feel restless, bored, unsatisfied with my life. Sometimes at night I feel hollow and empty. And I keep thinking there’s got to be more to life than this.”



Roadmap

The Fullness of Hunger (Matthew 5:1-6)

- I. **What Does It Mean** To Hunger And Thirst For Righteousness.
- II. **What Does It Look Like** To Hunger And Thirst For Righteousness!!
- III. **What Is The Reward** For Those Who Hunger And Thirst For Righteousness?
- IV. **Practical Ways** We Can Hunger And Thirst For Righteousness



I. What does it **mean** to Hunger for Righteousness?

Hunger and **Thirst** are strong words when you think about what they mean.

Dikaiosyne → Justice, fairness, honesty, integrity... **How to honor God in front of God.**



I. What does it **mean** to Hunger for Righteousness?

God makes us **RIGHT** with Him. God does this for you. We **do not have to work** for this righteousness.

Romans 5:6-8 ⁶ You see, at just the right time, **when we were still powerless**, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ **But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**



I. What does it mean to Hunger for Righteousness?

“To hunger and thirst after righteousness is nothing but **the longing to be holy**, to long to be like the new testament man, **the new (creation) in Christ...**

it means that one’s supreme desire in life is **to know God and to be in fellowship with him, to walk with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the light...** in the end that is nothing but a longing and desire to be like the lord Jesus Christ himself.”

– Martin Lloyd Jones



I. What does it **mean** to Hunger for Righteousness?

Righteousness is what Christ is. (1 Cor. 1:30) ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our **righteousness**, holiness and redemption.

Righteousness is What Christ gives. (2 Cor. 5:21) “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the **righteousness** of God.

Righteousness is what we live for (1 Peter 2:24) ²⁴ “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for **righteousness**; “by his wounds you have been healed.”



I. What does it **mean** to Hunger for Righteousness?

Seeking Righteousness... Is to seek and submit to **CHRIST!!**

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST **FOR CHRIST...** For they will be filled!



II. What does it **look** like to Hunger for Righteousness?

A Desperate Hungering... (1st Century vs 21st Century)

Matthew 5:6 is a **call to pursue Gods will.**
To honor and know God above all things.



II. What does it **look** like to Hunger for Righteousness?

King David describes what it looks like to Hunger for righteousness:

Psalm 42:1-2 → ¹As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. ²**My soul thirsts for God**, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

Psalm 63:1 → You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; **I thirst for you**, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

Psalm 143:6 → ⁵I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done. ⁶I spread out my hands to you; **I thirst for you like a parched land.**



II. What does it **look** like to Hunger for Righteousness?

A Warning for Christians:

IF YOU HAVE NO CONCERN AND LONGING FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS and to please God... you need to carefully assess the health of your heart!

WE NEED TO HAVE A HOLY DISCONTENT WITH OUR LIVES



III. What is the **Reward** for those who Hunger for Righteousness?

Matthew 5:6 → Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

The More you seek God, the more **satisfied you will be.**



III. What is the **Reward** for those who Hunger for Righteousness?

1. Complete Satisfaction.

Jeremiah 2 → “They have forsaken me the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns.”

John 4:14 → ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them **will never thirst**. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

John 6:35 → ³⁵ Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. **Whoever comes to me will never go hungry**, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.



III. What is the **Reward** for those who Hunger for Righteousness?

2. **Eternal Satisfaction**

Isaiah 55:1-2 → Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.² Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.

Matthew 6:33 → ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.



IV. Practical Ways we can Hunger for Righteousness

1. Pray and Confess

Simply being honest with God is a great way to begin: just tell him you do not really hunger after him, but you would like to. **'Make me willing to be willing'** is one way to pray here.

Admit your lack of hunger and thirst for God, and tell him you want this to change.

God honors the hungry heart, and if that is not there, **he honors the willing heart.**



IV. Practical Ways we can Hunger for Righteousness

2. Practice fasting from legitimate pleasures

- **Mark 8:34** → ³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: **“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.**
- **FASTING HAS THE EFFECT OF CLEANSING THE BODY AND HEART**
- **FASTING HELPS YOU FOCUS ON WHAT MATTERS**

You will be surprised at the freedom that this brings you



IV. Practical Ways we can Hunger for Righteousness

3. Surround yourself with a Community who pursues God wholeheartedly.

Appetite is influenced by Association!

1 Corinthians 15:33 → Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.”

- If you hang out with people who only cares about sports, politics, work... THAT’S ALL YOU WILL CARE ABOUT

Join a small group for support!!



Conclusion

As we Enter 2025:

Evaluate, How are you doing Spiritually?

Are you hungering and Thirsting for God?

Pray and **Confess**

Fast and **Deny yourself** from Worldly pleasures

Recommit to Community and studying the Word today!