**Life Team Bible Study**

For the week of May 6 – Beatitudes wk 3– The Hunger

**HANG**

* What is something that are craving (food wise) right now?
* If you could eat something and never get fat or full hat would you eat?

**HEAR**

We continue our study on the Beatitudes - the word means “blessings”. All the “beatitudes” in Matthew 5 begin with “Blessed are…”

Matthew 5:3-11

* Can you quote them yet? Try to memorize. What is your favorite?

**Each of the beatitudes build upon each other –**

\* Poor in spirit – realizing you are spiritually empty = leads to salvation

\* Mourning – is a brokenness that leads to the comfort of the given HS

\* Meekness – is a release of control and submission to Jesus

\* After submission comes a new direction in life- new pursuits, a new hunger

**Let’s focus on one today** **- Matthew 5:6**

* What is the longest you have ever gone without food?
* Do you think we are always hungry for something? Why, why not?

**Our pursuits are not always healthy & often out of alignment with God.**

**Ecclesiastes 1:14, Jeremiah 17:9, Philippians 2:3, Romans 2:8**

* Do you know the Jesus’ story of the prodigal son? (Luke 15:11-20)
* Paraphrase the story – what do you think the son looking for?
* Can the things of this life fill the hunger we have in our life? No
* In Matt 5:6, what do you think “hunger and thirst” means? Starving

**- Hunger & thirst = Nothing will get in their way – there is a desperation**

* How would you describe – desperation?
* What kind of things do you hunger and thirst for?

**Psalm 42:1-2, Psalm 63:1**

* How desperate does the writer of those verses sound?
* What are these verses speaking to us in regard to desperation?
* What do you think the word “righteousness” is meaning here?

**- After Righteousness = To be aligned with God – his will and his ways**

* If you were drowning what do you think would be the one thing on your mind? AIR - Why?
* How might this desperation be like Matthew 5:6 – hunger and thirst?

**Psalm 27:4, Philippians 3:7-14** (Leaders go through the verses slowly)

* In Phil 3, what was Paul telling us the one thing is? See v13-14

**- Will be filled = Satisfied and fulfilled**

**Isaiah 55:2-3, Psalm 107:8-9, Matthew 6:33. Proverbs 21:21**

* Have you ever tried to fill your life with the things of this life?
* Did you stay full or satisfied? Why not?
* What was going on in your life, that lead you to that season?

**Are you hungry? Have you lost your appetite?**

* Do you remember a season in your life when you were extremely hungry for God?
* What was going on in your life, that lead you to that season?
* What does God often do to get us hungry? Trials / desperation

**This is the truth: Unless you are hungry for God and his righteousness you will not be filled or satisfied.**

**\*\*\* How is your spiritual appetite? One of the greatest dangers of a person’s life is the absence of spiritual hunger.**

**How to build an appetite:**

1. **Start with – Matthew 5:3 -** Starts with salvation and the Holy Spirit
2. **Priorities - must be the utmost important** - Get back to the one thing/ 1st thing.

1. **Diet - Take a look at your spiritual diet -** What are you eating? garbage in garbage out - Avoid the things that kill / hinder your appetite.

* What ruins dinner appetites? – snacking a lot.
* What are some things that might ruin our spiritual appetite? - snacking and filling up on the stuff of this life. too much work, hobbies, entertainment, even ministry, etc. – no room left for God.
* Is it possible to be hungry for unhealthy things? Like what?

1. **Exercise - Stimulate your hunger -** Read Christian books, watch Christian films, Christian music, read your bible, have a bible study, prayer, talk about Jesus to others.

**Those that are spiritually hungry – that seek, chase, listen, engage, ask questions, read, show up, plug in, serve… you will be filled.**

* Why do you think God wants us filled?

**Unlike regular food - the more spiritual food you eat – the more your appetite grows, the more your hungry & thirst increases. But you also get filled and sense of satisfaction – as you poor it out for others.**

**Are you hungry? Are you thirsty?**

**What are you hungry and thirsty for? Have you lost your appetite for God?**

James 4:8, Jeremiah 29:11-14, 2 Pe 3:18

**EXTRA – If Time permits - Natural compared to Spiritual**

\* We will die without food & water - designed to need spiritual food

\* We are designed to be hungry every day- designed w/ inner longing

\* We are designed to eat fresh every day - We must keep our walk fresh

**HUDDLE**

* How would you describe your spiritual appetite?
* What are you going to do to get hungry?
* What are some things that God used to get you hungry for God?
* Prayer – God make us hungry and thirsty for you?

**HOME**

* What does Romans 1 - tell you about unhealthy pursuits and diets?
* Psalm 27 – what is God speaking to you about this passage?

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Matthew 5:3-11

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**- Hunger & thirst = Nothing will get in their way – there is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Psalm 42:1-2, Psalm 63:1

**- After Righteousness = To be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – his will and his ways**

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