

## Blessings: The Blessings of Hunger

Matthew 5:6

### Opening Discussion:

1. Can you remember a time when you were really hungry or really thirsty?
2. How do cravings impact our enjoyment of food and our desire for food?
3. What kinds of things do people crave spiritually?
4. In what ways do people try to fulfill their spiritual cravings?

**Those who crave righteousness will find real fulfillment.**

### Review:

5:3

- *“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”*
- The path to true joy and lasting happiness is the path of brokenness and humble submission to God.

5:4

- *“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”*
- When we mourn over sin, the Creator of the universe will comfort us.

5:5

- *“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”*
- Those who abuse power will end up with nothing, but those who trust the Lord will inherit everything.

### The Fourth Blessing Statement:

#### 1. Those who hunger and thirst

- When we are hungry and thirsty, it's because we have a deficit of food and water.
- When we hunger and thirst for righteousness, it's because there's a deficit of righteousness.
- This is a spiritual thirst.
- God has invited those who are spiritually thirsty to come to Him:

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. **Isaiah 55:1**

Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

**Revelation 22:17**

- God has promised to take away our hunger and thirst:

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore. **Revelation 7:16**

#### 2. For righteousness

- What does Jesus mean when He says we should hunger and thirst for righteousness?
- Righteousness
  - Applied personally: right standing before God
  - Applied to society: justice, rightness, equity

### 3. They shall be satisfied

- The promise is this: When we hunger and thirst for righteousness, God will give us what we desire, and we will not be disappointed!
- We all have spiritual hunger and spiritual thirst: acceptance, security, significance, love
- If we seek spiritual fulfillment in the wrong places, we will never be satisfied.
- If we seek to be right with God and to see the righteousness of His Kingdom advance, we will be completely satisfied.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. **Isaiah 55:2**

- Where do we find what we are looking for? Jesus

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. **John 6:35**

### Fill in the Blank Answers

---

#### Opening Discussion:

Those who crave righteousness will find real fulfillment.

#### Review:

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."*

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

*"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."*

**The Third Blessing Statement:** hunger, thirst, righteousness, satisfied