Thirsting For Righteousness

Greg Kline · Matthew 5:6 · Series: **The Beatitudes**

INTRODUCTION

- I think as Christians, though, sometimes we lose sight of the motivation factor in the chain of accomplishing something.
- There's something very important about each of those characteristics because they come with a promise.

1 Hunger and Thirst: Dying for Food

Matthew 5:6

- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Why? For they shall be satisfied.
- This type of hunger and thirsting isn't your casual stop by 7 Eleven and get a big gulp type of thirst. This is dying for food, dying for something to drink.
- You desperately need food to sustain your very life.
- How bad do you want righteousness this morning?

2 What Is Righteousness?

Ezekiel 18:5–9; 1 Corinthians 6:9–11

- If a man is righteous and does what is just and right, if he does not eat upon the mountains or lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of the Lord.
- You see, the power of the righteous man is in God.
- But such were some of you, but you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.
- You recognized that on your own, you were nothing. You had no chance, no eternity, no hope, no promise. But with God there is everything.

3 Give All to Him the Rest of Our Lives

John 14:15

- But my question this morning is do we give all to him the rest of our lives?
- You're not a peacemaker one time and then you're fine. You don't mourn one time and then you're fine.
- You need to hunger and thirst for righteousness. What does that mean? You want it more than anything. Because it's your everything.
- Jesus says in John 14 and verse 15, if you love me, you will keep my commandments.

4 Study the Word and Practice Righteousness

1 John 3:1–10; Hebrews 5:11–14

- A way to parlay that is to study the word of God. Study the very words that help us become righteous.
- Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

- It's not just deciding you want it. You have to do something with it.
- If you truly hunger and thirst for it, you're going to work for it. You're going to study the word of righteousness.

5 The Salt of the Earth and a Light

Matthew 5:13–16

- We had sin, we had guilt, and Jesus came to take it away.
- We owe him a lifetime of sincere service.
- Instead of worrying about the world, is this church, are you like you used to be?
- Jesus promises, if you do, you will be satisfied. But there is a condition upon that satisfaction, and it is that you seek, you hunger and thirst for it.

6 Walk in the Same Way in Which He Walked

1 John 2:1–6

- Whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.
- It's walking like Christ. It's bearing your cross daily like Christ. It's having humility like Christ.
- You can be known based on whether or not you practice righteousness.
- We shouldn't try to act like other people. We should try to act like the Son of God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Has His righteousness filled you this morning? Have you been satisfied? Or perhaps are you found not hungering or not thirsting in the way that we truly have need for.**

MY NOTES