

Can You Still Be Hungry?

// INTRO

Thanksgiving Week

- we ate a lot of food, hopefully it was good food
- we prepare ourselves for this day.
- we don't eat as much before the big meal
- we spend more time preparing the meal
- yet, even after eating all that food, we still find a way to make room for dessert and that bonus plate a couple hours later

There's a Hunger & Thirst

We are at an amazing moment in history when the separation between **light** and **dark** is becoming clearer.

Right and **wrong** is becoming **black** and **white**, gray areas are fading.

Matthew 5:6 ESV

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Righteousness

A Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament and The Hebrew Bible
(1343. δικαιοσύνη)

1343. δικαιοσύνη **dikaiōsunē**, dik-ah-yos-oo´-nay; from 1342; **equity** (of character or act); spec. (Chr.) **justification:—righteousness.**

[Ephesians 2:8](#) “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,”

- we know that this Hunger for righteousness is not something that we can achieve on our own. It's not something that we can go to a class and learn how to hunger after righteousness.
- It can't be learned because it **never stops!**
- Your hunger for righteousness should be an ongoing pursuit.

it's like your favorite food - can you really have enough of it?

Satisfied

A Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament and The Hebrew Bible
(5526. χορτάζω)

5526. χορτάζω chōrtazō, khor-tad´-zo; from 5528; to fodder, i.e. (gen.) to gorge (supply food in abundance):—**feed, fill, satisfy.**

Doing the right thing is hard!

There is not promise that doing the right this is easy.

Can You Thirst?

[Psalm 42:2](#) (ESV)

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?

Rivers Flow For Thirsty People

[John 7:37-38](#) (ESV)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, **“If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”**

Where else have we heard of **living water**?

[John 4](#) - the woman at the well

[John 4:13-14](#) “Jesus said to her, **“Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”**”

This conversation ends with Jesus saying that **true worshippers** will be worshipping in **spirit & in truth**

Spirit = pneuma - meaning breath // **this means that we have to pour out!**

You can't hold living water in, it has to have release!

This is why our worship is expressive.

This is why we don't worship as statues! Statues aren't alive, they have nothing living in them.

We worship **THE LIVING GOD** and He deserves a **LIVING PRAISE**

Something happened when this woman's thirst was satisfied - she went and brought her town to Jesus!

She went and brought her town to Jesus!

When you get filled, you don't need to go through 4 years of training and school, you are filled and the Holy Spirit begins to operate in you.

- you get bold
- you say things you wouldn't normally say
- you have a zeal and fire that people can't help but be drawn to
- you get the Word of God in your heart and it begins to flow out

Can You Hunger?

John 6:35 ESV

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.

When tempted in the desert to turn stones into bread...

the enemy is trying to give your false and empty satisfaction. He wants you to eat something that looks like bread, but it's really hard, unhealthy, and will break you!

Matthew 4:4 ESV

But he answered, "It is written, " 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

Jesus is quoting [Deut 8:1-3: v](#)

- Israel is coming out of the wilderness and is being reminded of what got them to this place

[Deuteronomy 8:1-3](#) (ESV)

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And **you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

- this is a reminder that we don't live on the **gifts of God**, but rather the **word of God**.

*We don't live on the **gifts of God**, we live on the **Word of God!***

James 1:19–22 *ESV*

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Pride Kills Hunger

Humility brings the **hunger!**

[Deut 8:3](#) “And he humbled you and let you hunger...”

The moment you say, “I'm satisfied” you are no longer hungry.

It's like Rodisio Grill (Brazilian Steakhouse), you flip your card to the green side and they bring you endless amounts of meats. You flip the red side and the flow stops.

Listening to the Grippled Podcast with Cory Russell and Billy Humphrey, Billy was talking about a revelation that he received regarding the Church of Laodicea (the lukewarm church).

[Revelation 3:14-22](#) ““And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: ‘The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s creation. “ ‘I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my...”

The revelation he pulled was that his life may not be 100% lukewarm, but there are areas in his life that are lukewarm. The Lord showed him this by asking what areas of his life he had together and excelled at.

Billy responded to God by telling him how much of a great father he was.

The Lord showed him that he had made that a lukewarm area of his life because he no longer sought God in that area, because it was healthy...

We are **nothing** without God. We need him in every area of our lives!

For those that believe you are filled, I solicit Jesus' words, [Luke 6:25](#) ““Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. “Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.”

The Syrophenician Woman

Matthew 15:21–28 ESV

And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

Tyre & Sidon

This was a gentile district, about 50 miles north of where they were stationed around the Sea of Galilee.

Both were port cities, so major trade cities, easy for word to spread. (Jesus knows how to go viral.)

Jesus’ mission on earth the first time was to save the “lost sheep of Israel” so this was very odd that He would go so far out of his way to a region where Jews were not.

Mark’s account of this story tells us... [Mark 7:24](#) “And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden.”

Even when Jesus tries to hide himself, He can't be hidden.

When you are on fire and filled with the Spirit of God, you cannot be hidden!

Humility & Intercession

This woman comes humbly, asking for mercy from Jesus.

She knew her place, she knew that as a gentile woman, coming to a Jewish man was not culturally acceptable.

But she didn't care what culture told her, she had a hunger!

A few things caught my attention:

1. She came crying out - she was desperate
2. She asks for mercy
3. She recognized Jesus as the **Son of David** - she recognizes Jesus as King
4. She came on behalf of someone else - she is interceding
intercessor = a person who intervenes on behalf of another, especially by prayer.
5. Her daughter is severely demon oppressed

You see all these things, and what happens next is shocking...

[Matthew 15:23](#) **“But he did not answer her a word.** And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.””

Hunger Becomes Contagious

The woman's hunger to see results made the disciples get involved. Now they are looking for something to be done.

Notice, Jesus still doesn't respond to the woman, but responds to the disciples.

[Matthew 15:24](#) “He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.””

The Hungry Posture

The woman **changes her posture** and kneels at Jesus feet, **YOU CAN'T IGNORE THIS NOW**, saying “Lord help me.”

Jesus responds with a very interesting phrase...

Matthew 15:26 **ESV**

And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”

A few takeaways:

- The Children’s Bread refers to deliverance - remember she is requesting that her severely demon oppressed daughter be delivered. Jesus is saying to her that the Children of Isreal get to partake in deliverance, it is their bread!
- Jesus calls her a dog

Cultural Context

Jews would call gentiles dogs, it was a very derogative term used.

Jesus uses the Hebrew word meaning, little dog or puppy.

Jesus was saying this to remind her of her place, but he softened the blow of the word and let her know that there was space for her in this moment.

- The woman responds by saying, **“Lord, I know that you are here for the Jews, but I also understand that your ability goes far beyond them. I just want to be a part of that extended blessing!”**

She’s not asking for the portion that belongs to the children of Isreal, she will gladly take what they have rejected (the crumbs).

Satisfaction

Matthew 15:28 ESV

Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

It’s a New Season / A Birthing Season

*I believe that in this season the Lord is birthing something. When you are pregnant with something, your senses are heightened. I believe the Lord is allowing people to begin to interact with Him across all senses. We are **seeing** His work, we are **hearing** His voice more than ever, we are **tasting** His goodness, we are **feeling** His presence in new ways, and we are **smelling** the fragrance of His anointing! (Last week during the teaching, someone began smelling anointing oil and the fragrance got stronger and stronger as the service went on)*

While our senses are heightened, the birthing room is coming. There will be trauma, there will be pain, there will be a season of the uncomfortable. Positions will change, garments will change, the way that you walk will change, why? Because you are birthing something

new. It is something that has been inside of you, but it's time for it to be released into this World!

[Psalm 23](#) - the Lord prepares a table before me (in the presence of my enemies) - so come can eat

[Psalm 34](#) - taste and see that the Lord is good!