**The blessed character of the spiritually hungry – Matt. 5:6**

**Focal Truth: Those who are spiritually hungry & thirsty are blessed**

Review:

The Christian is poor in spirit – recognizing their sinfulness

The Christian mourns over their remaining sinfulness

The Christian is gentle like Jesus Christ

**Observations**

1. **What is hunger & thirst?**
2. Hunger & thirst represent desires
3. Hunger & thirst come from a need
4. Hunger & thirst are a sign of life
5. **What is spiritual hunger & thirst?**
6. Spiritual hunger & thirst **desires the need** for righteousness
7. Spiritual hunger & thirst is **a real desire in the mind**
8. Spiritual hunger & thirst are **desires for more graces of the Holy Spirit, more holiness and Christlikeness**

1 Pet. 2:2 – 3 - like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord

Ps. 119:103 – how sweet are your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey in my mouth

1. Spiritual hunger & thirst is **spiritual appetite for more of God’s grace in our lives**

Ps. 119:40 – I long for your precepts, revive me through your righteousness

Ps. 73:25 – whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on the earth

Phil. 3:10 – that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death

Pr. 10:24 – the desire of the righteous will be granted

Pr. 11:23 – the desire of the righteous is only good

Matt. 6:33 – but seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you

1. **What is righteousness?**
2. Righteousness is pure innocence, rightness in all actions & relationships, purity of life
3. God alone is righteous
4. God has revealed His perfect righteousness through Jesus Christ
5. Believers receive **the imputed righteousness** of Christ at salvation

Col. 2:10 – you are complete in Him

2 Cor. 5:21 – for our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God

1. God looks on the believer through the imputed righteousness of Christ as if they have never sinned.

Rom. 5:17 – for if by one man’s trespass death reigned through one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ

1. Believers receive **the implanted graces of the Holy Spirit** at salvation

1 John 2:29 – if you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him

Phil. 1:11 – having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God

1. **The blessedness of spiritual fullness – they shall be satisfied**
2. Spiritual hunger & thirst is satisfied by God

John7:37 -38 – Jesus stood and cried, if anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scriptures said, from his innermost being will flow rivers of living water. This He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive….

John 6:35 – Jesus said, I am the bread of life, he who comes to me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst

Ps. 145:19 – He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him

Ps. 107:9 – for He has satisfied the thirsty soul, and the hungry soul He has filled with what is good.

1. The experience of spiritual fullness produces a desire for continued spiritual fullness

Eph. 3:19 – to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God

Eph. 5:18 – do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit

Col.1:9 – we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding

1. Spiritual fullness is continuous from the fullness of the Holy Spirit

Eph. 1:22 -23 – He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all

Eph. 4:10 – He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things

Gal. 5:22 -23 – the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self – control

Rom. 8:6 – the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life & peace

Rom. 8:11 – if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. Spiritual hunger is a blessed hunger
2. Keep coming to the fountain - the Lord Jesus Christ drink of the water of life freely – Rev. 21:6 – I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.
3. Taste and see that the Lord is good – Ps. 34:8 – O taste and see that the Lord is good, how blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**