Series "The King And His Kingdom"
"Fullness Of Hunger"
Matthew 5:6
Study–12

#4 Beatitude: Jesus uses a metaphor that we can all relate to because the desire for <u>food</u> and <u>thirst</u> is the strongest craving that we have.

1. It's A Mark Of Life:
2. It's A Mark Of A Normal, Healthy Life:
3. A Healthy Appetite Is The Road To Growth:
4. A Good Appetite Is A Blessing:

Thought Of Our Passage: "The Blessing Upon Those Who Hunger And Thirst After God's Righteousness Is Finding Satisfaction Of Being Like Jesus."

1. Who Are The Blessed?
2. What Is Hunger And Thirst?
3. What Is The Blessing Of Hunger And Thirst?
4. How Do You Become Hungry And Thirsty?

<u>1. Who Are The Blessed?</u>

Matthew 5:6

Matthew 5-7 "The Sermon on The Mount"
Jesus is speaking to **Disciples –** *"learners, pupils, followers of the teacher and teachings"* about **"Kingdom Living" (Sermon <u>Standard and Practice</u>)**

Matthew 5:3-12 Jesus starts with what are called **"The Beatitudes"** meaning *"Beautiful Attitudes"*
Beatitudes - means *"have these attitudes" ...beautiful attitudes*

<u>There are 8 Beatitudes:</u>
Beatitudes 1-4 Our Response to God (Poor, Mourn, Gentle, Hunger)
Beatitudes 5-8 Our Response to Man (Merciful, Pure, Peacemaker, Persecuted)

"Blessed" *"Oh how happy.... To be envied...happiness"*
This word was used of Greek gods who alone were said to have possessed a joy and happiness that could only be enjoyed in the divine.

Who Are The Blessed? *Those that God approves, heaven applauds; they have the blessing from Him.* **(Those who have longed for God's approval over man's)**

#1 Beatitude "Blessed is the Poor in spirit" This is Spiritual Bankruptcy.
#2 Beatitude "Blessed are those who mourn" "Mourning over Sin."
#3 Beatitude "Blessed are the gentle" Yielded and surrendered to God

#4 Beatitude is "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness"

2. What Is Hunger And Thirst?

Matthew 5:6

Historical Setting: When Jesus spoke this message,
His hearers knew what it was to hunger.

We have to define what we mean by "Hunger and Thirst"

Hunger – *"suffering deep hunger"* refers to the desperate craving that a starving person has for food - *starvation, intense desire, literally dying of hunger."*

Thirst – The word means *"to painfully feel the need for water, intense desire, dying of thirst - to keep on thirsting."* This is more than just needing a sip; it means *"to be parched and dehydrated to the point of pain."*

The sense in the Greek is *"we're to hunger for the whole portion and thirst for a bucket of water."* The Greek grammar is also in the present tense, meaning *that we should continuously hunger and thirst. This is not something we just do once and then we're satisfied.*

But this hunger and thirst refers to the SPIRITUAL REALM, not simply to food. Matthew 5:6 for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Righteousness - Literally *"In the right"* We are UN-righteous.... In the wrong!
Jesus is speaking of two different usages of this word "Righteousness"

1. Positional Righteousness – Hungry For Salvation: (Justification)"
Just as if I never sinned," God declares us righteous through faith in Jesus Christ! Wanting to be right with God! **Romans 4:2-5**

*We are declared righteous through faith in Jesus Christ: **Romans 10:4**

Jesus Is God's Righteousness! 2 Corinthians 5:21

2. Practical Righteousness – Hungry For Sanctification:
(Set Apart) Living like a Saved Person ~Yielding ourselves to Jesus Christ

Matthew 5:20 takes place within the HEART.... it's not MAN-MADE

Righteousness is used seven times in the Sermon on the Mount.

Romans 8:20-21 futility - *"emptiness, void"* Like a puzzle that is missing a piece.

Examples of Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness:

Moses: The gentlest man. **Numbers 12:3** ~ Saw the burning bush ~ God sent the plagues through him ~ Saw God as a cloud by day ~ Saw God as a pillar of fire by night ~ Saw God part the Red Sea ~ Saw God produce water from a rock ~ Saw God give him the Law ~ Saw God in the tabernacle

Exodus 33:18 Moses' request to God, **"I pray You, show me Your glory!"**

David: Was a man after God's Own heart - he said in **Psalm 23, "The Lord is my Shepherd; <u>I shall not want</u>." Psalm 42:1-3; Psalm 63:1**

Paul: Acts 9:3-9 Road to Damascus – He saw Jesus Christ.
Acts 18:9-10 In Corinth, Jesus appeared in a vision to Paul
Acts 27:23 Vision from God, about to be shipwrecked.
2 Corinthians 12:1-4 Paul left his body and went to heaven.

Philippians 3:10-12

"This is the way of a healthy Christian; he or she never has enough of God and righteousness. He or she is always hungry!"

<u>3. What Is The Blessing Of Hunger And Thirst?</u>

Matthew 5:6

<u>Paradoxical Satisfaction</u>: "Those who continually hunger are satisfied"
How can one be hungry and satisfied at the same time?
How can one be satisfied and experience hunger?

they shall be satisfied - *"Filled" literally.... glutted*
"They and only they shall be satisfied"

John 4:13-14 (Must keep drinking) John 6:35 (Must keep eating)

JESUS ALONE SATISFIES US... But He produces a blessed dissatisfaction that makes us eat and drink until we are like Jesus Christ. **Psalm 17:15**

Those whose appetites are met through Jesus Christ will experience <u>spiritual health</u> and <u>ultimate satisfaction</u>.

<u>4. How Do You Become Hungry And Thirsty?</u>

1 Peter 2:2-3

WE CANNOT MAKE OURSELVES RIGHTEOUS:
But we can get rid of those things that are keeping our spiritual taste buds dormant.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after <u>HAPPINESS</u>!"

Everybody is hungering and thirsting after that something. Scripture tells us that only those who HUNGER & THIRST AFTER <u>RIGHTEOUSNESS</u> will be satisfied.

<u>We Need To Watch What We Eat</u>!
Isaiah 55:1-2; Jeremiah 2:12-13

Amos 8:11-12 God invoked a famine in order to provoke a hunger.

Application:

1. **Poor In Spirit -** Destitute - nothing to offer a Holy God. Filthy rags for righteousness.
2. **Mourning -** "God me merciful to me the sinner" - Repent, seek God's help
3. **Gentle, Meek -** Forget self, surrender of my will to God, (no fight)
4. **Hunger & Thirst After Him -** Holiness, wanting Jesus and to be like Him.

1. Make Time To Read The Bible: MUST PLAN FOR IT! Pray before reading it.
2. Make Time For Prayer: Confess our sins to God, pray to grow.
3. Commit Ourselves To Being A Student Of The Word: Be Teachable
4. Avoid Distractions: Stay away from things that take away our desire.