

## Blessing— The Good Kind of Hunger—05.10.2020

Scripture: Matthew 5.1-12

### **Scripture:**

#### **Matthew 5.1-12**

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,<sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.**

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

#### **2 Corinthians 5.21 (NLT)**

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

### **Summary:**

This week, we continued the series called Blessing. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus proclaimed that a whole list of people who don't seem to be blessed are blessed already. In the crowd that day were people who had all kinds of diseases, were in immense pain, possessed by demons, suffering from seizures, and those who were paralyzed. Jesus had been healing many. In Matthew 5.6, Jesus addressed those who were hungry and thirsty for righteousness.

### **Study Questions:**

- Jesus relates the physical reality of hunger and thirst to a desire for righteousness. When was the last time you were physically hungry and thirsty?
- Pastor Mark said, “The people who feed us help to shape what we long for.” Who are the people who have fed you (physically and spiritually) over the course of your life? What hungers or desires have they sparked in you?

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- Righteousness is right relationship with God that is lived out in right relationships with others. Righteousness is only possible as a gift from God through Jesus Christ, it's not something we can achieve on our own. Yet, a realigned relationship with God bears fruit in our daily lives. Have you received the gift of right relationship with God by saying yes to Jesus? If so, how does that decision impact the way you live in relationship with others?
- Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Can you imagine a world where no one is hungry or thirsty? How can you be a part of sharing the bread of life?

### Pray

God we are hungry and thirsty

We long for Jesus

We long for right relationship with you

We say yes to that longing

We say yes to Jesus

Come and fill us... Amen.