

Southwest Life Groups

A Place to Belong...A Place to Transform

April 4th, 2010

Focus: To explore how longing for Jesus is vastly different from what most hunger and thirst after.

The Beatitudes *Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness -Lesson 4*

Introduction: Burger King has a slogan I believe they stole from human nature. Does anyone remember what it is? Come to Burger King and you can 'have it your way'.

- Discuss how this slogan defines the sinful nature.
- Share you thoughts on the narcissism in our culture today.
- What happens, even in church, when people don't get it their way?
- What happens, even in church, when people do!

Text: Matt. 5:6, Matt. 23

- Read Matt 5:6 and share your initial thoughts on what Jesus is saying.
- Read Matt 23. Compare and contrast Jesus' view of righteousness verses the Pharisees view.
- Explore multiple NT passages where Paul defines righteousness though Jesus as opposed to the law.
- Explore this statement: To hunger and thirst after righteousness is to hunger and thirst after Jesus himself.
- Discuss how one might read this beatitude from a works based theology standpoint and miss Jesus all together.

Application:

- What do you hunger and thirst after and what fruit is it producing in your life?
- How might the first three beatitudes be stepping stones to the fourth?
- Explore practical ways you can hunger and thirst for Christ?
- Discuss the interconnectedness of these statements.
- How might longing after Jesus, rather than the law, sin, etc. change your life?