

Getting into Our LivesGroup time - 20 minutes

1. What are you hungry for? What does it say about you and how does it affect you?
2. Hungering for God ought to result in bearing His fruit. Assess yourself on a scale of 1-10 regarding the following three areas:

Extending mercy to others. 1-----10

Same character in public and private. 1-----10

Bringing God's peace & unity to others. 1-----10
3. Sometimes to develop a greater hunger for what's good, we have to change our diet even before our taste buds change. What is a new action or habit you can start this week to help lead your appetite toward God?

Getting Out the GospelGroup time - 5 minutes

How can putting more time into seeking after God benefit your lost friends?

Looking at the scores you gave yourself above, which one of these is keeping you from being able to effectively share Christ's love with others?

Getting into PrayerGroup time - 10 minutes

Reach: "High King of Heaven, bring your mercy, your peace, your life-giving bread to this world that knows none of these things and is never satisfied."

Growth: "Make the taste of the world sour in our mouths and the sweetness of your Word, your Righteousness and You the only taste we desire."

Empower: "Bear the fruit of mercy, purity of heart and peacemaking in our very souls so that we can reveal your great love to the world."

The Hunger that Satisfies *Matthew 5:6-9*

Hunger/Thirst for Righteousness

Matthew 5:6

Matthew 6:33; Psalm 42:1; 63:1; Isaiah 58:11; Jeremiah 31:25; Psalm 16:11; John 6:35

Sometimes, to develop a greater hunger for what's good, we have to _____ our diet, even before our taste buds change.

Let us believe Jesus this morning, that longing for and walking the righteous path God has laid out for His children, will lead to their _____, their satisfaction, their filling, and contentment.

Merciful

Matthew 5:7

Matthew 18:21-35; Luke 10:25-37

When people hurt us and don't _____ love, that's precisely when the mercy of God that has come to us needs to extend to them. Mercy comes from mercy.

Pure in Heart

Matthew 5:8

Psalm 27:3

"A pure will loves God with the whole heart and soul and mind. It is 'fanatical'—the greatest insult the modern mind can conceive, and the greatest compliment God can give. It is also the greatest compliment a lover can give: "I love you with my whole heart and soul. My love is not _____. You have no rival."

Peacemakers

Matthew 5:9

Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14; Isaiah 9:6; John 14:27; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

Jesus is compelling us to seek out peace in response to the peace we've been _____ with. Actively.

"His peacemaking earned Him the hatred of religious leaders and the derision of His family. His peacemaking led Him to a garden, not for quiet repose, but for midnight wrestling; not for cool refreshment, but an overflowing cup of almighty wrath. His peacemaking led Him to a cross. It led Him to outer darkness.

It also led Him to crown, a throne, and a people from every tribe and tongue and nation. This is the lot of peacemakers. Their bodies are scarred and they have been despised, but their harvest is full and their title is no cause for shame. They shall be called sons of God."

- Dirk Naves, Ligonier Ministries

I never knew:

I need to change:

I should share:

GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

Week of October 22, 2017

Getting StartedGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Create two “worldly beatitudes” that current society would celebrate.

Blessed are the _____, for they will _____.

Blessed are the _____, for they will _____.

2. Tell about the time where you were the hungriest or thirstiest you’ve ever been.

3. What is a non-food pursuit that you have greatly “hungered” after?

Getting into God’s WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read Matthew 5:6-9

1. Try to put each beatitude into your own words:

Vs 6:

Vs 7:

Vs 8:

Vs 9:

2. What does the world hunger and thirst for? How is the citizen of God’s kingdom supposed to be different? **See also: Matthew 6:32-33**

3. How does seeking after God and His way (vs 6) naturally lead to the next three beatitudes?

Read Psalm 63:1-8

4. What is David hungry and thirsty for? What imagery strongly resonates with you?

5. What does this psalm tell us about God? Do you believe it? How do you achieve it?

Read John 6:35

6. How does Jesus himself bring the satisfaction of God near to you? How does this help you understand what it means to “hunger and thirst for righteousness” and “seek first His kingdom”?

Read Isaiah 55:1-2

7. Why do you think God cares so much about what we “eat”? If we eat the right things, what will we become?