

Deep Happiness – Hunger & Thirst for Righteousness – Week 4 – Pastor Guy 5-22-22

1. What's your favorite food?
2. What's your favorite restaurant?
3. What's the most hungry that you have ever been? What's the thirstiest you've ever been?

Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

God wants us to experience Deep Happiness or Blessedness in our lives through our pursuit of righteousness.

4. What comes to your mind when you hear the word righteousness?

Righteousness is the character of the inner life when it is as it should be.

5. What are your thoughts about this definition of righteousness?

Two Kinds of Righteousness

I - Imputed Righteousness – Righteousness given to us by God

*Romans 3:22a - but it is the **righteousness of God** through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe*

II - Pursued Righteousness – Righteousness that we seek

*2 Timothy 2 - Now flee from youthful lusts and **pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace** with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.*

6. Have you trusted in Jesus for forgiveness and eternal life? (Imputed righteousness)
7. Is so, how do you feel knowing that God sees you as righteous?
8. Are you pursuing righteousness? If so, how?
9. How do you feel in your pursuit of righteousness?

1 – Blessed are the poor in spirit (Realizing I really, really, really need God)

2 – Blessed are those who mourn (Agreeing with God about my sin)

3 – Blessed are the meek (Submit to God)

4 – Blessed are those who hunger & thirst for righteousness

10. How is being poor in spirit important to being able to mourn our sin?
11. How is mourning our sin important to being meek?
12. How is being meek important to being hungry and thirsty for righteousness?
13. Can we pursue righteousness without being meek, mourning or being poor in spirit?

Jesus Maxim - The inward effects the outward. (outward righteous flows from inward righteousness)

Matthew 23:25-26 - ²⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full ^[v]of robbery and self-indulgence. ²⁶ You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the ^[z]outside of it may also become clean.

14. In what ways do we try to make the outside of our lives look clean or good, but inside we are still dirty?
15. Why do you think that we do this?

Galatians 5:22-23 - ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

16. What does Jesus’ righteousness look like?
17. Which one of the fruit of the spirit isn’t what it should be in your life?
18. What can you do this week to move forward in that area?

*Matthew 6:25-34 - ²⁵ “For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is life not more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the sky, that they do not sow, nor reap, nor gather crops into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more important than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single day to his life’s span? ²⁸ And why are you worried about clothing? Notice how the lilies of the field grow; they do not labor nor do they spin thread for cloth, ²⁹ yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! ³¹ Do not worry then, saying, ‘What are we to eat?’ or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear for clothing?’ ³² For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ **But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you.** ³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will ^[z]worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

19. How does seeking righteousness help us not to worry about the daily things of life?

Here are some helps to seeking righteousness this week:

- Download the beatitude screen for this week on your phone and take time daily to meditate on it.
- Daily spend time in God’s Word (you wouldn’t skip eating this week, eat something from God every day this week) (Start with Matthew 5, or Galatians 5)
- Share your victories and struggles with others.
- If you get stuck on one of the beatitudes go back to the ones before it.