



Hungering for God

- ▶ Matt. 6:5, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness for they will be filled.”
- ▶ **UNDERSTANDING OUR HUNGER**
 - ▶ **What is life about?**
 - ▶ Search for purpose.
 - ▶ Calendar is full, I have a little money, enjoying life, taking a vacation.
 - ▶ I must be living a life of purpose.



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- But really we have no idea where we are going in life but we are going there fast.
- We are just doing our time!!!!
- We must understand that the wisdom of this world cannot satisfy life's hunger.
- Look at our track record:



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- Broken relationships
- Scarred lives
- Domestic violence
- Loneliness
- Shattered dreams
- Substance abuse
- Abandoned children




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Principle #1

“We were made to live in relationship with God.”

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- To ignore this fact is to wind up starving spiritually.
 - Sometimes we confuse our spiritual hunger for relationship w/God as just a hunger for relationship in general.



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- What's the result:
 - Chasing after people that aren't good for us.
 - Trying to find a perfect relationship with other people.
 - Filling the void with a parent, child, or spouse.
 - These relationships will lead to disappointment. Why?
 - Because there are no perfect human relationships.



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- ▶ **Alert! Alert!**- There is no person that can make you or me feel satisfied!!!!
 - ▶ Scripture never tells us to love another person with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. That love is reserved for God alone.
 - ▶ In fact, I would suggest that if you are struggling in an earthly relationship then the deeper cause of that problem is that you are struggling in your relationship with God.




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Principle #2

Knowing about God is not necessarily knowing God

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- ▶ We sometimes grade our Christianity (relationship with God) by how many Bible facts I can memorize or how many scriptures I can quote.
 - ▶ **“The goal of Scripture isn’t minds filled with facts about God but hearts that are using those facts to be full of His presence.”**



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➤ Principle #3

Don't be satisfied with pyrite when you can have gold

- Instead of craving a vibrant relationship with God we settle for a house, a family, a few friends, a job, etc.
- Story of the boy who killed his father.
 - "I want my father, I want my father."
- This is the same desperate cry of the world




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- ▶ Listen to some testimonials
 - ▶ *“O God, you are my God; early will I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land, where there is no water.”-David (Ps. 63:1)*
 - ▶ *“Your name and renown are the desire of our hearts. My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you.”- Isaiah (Is. 26:8b,9).*



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*“Whom have I in heaven but you?
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
But God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.”- (Psalm 73:25-26).*





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- Text: Acts 2-4
- Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:6, *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness for they will be filled.”*
- These three chapters give us a description of what it means to have a hungering for God.



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➤ Holy hunger will lead you to a

BROKEN HEART

➤ Acts 2:37

➤ These people felt the anxiety of the moment.

➤ Much like Peter- Matt. 26:75

➤ David- II Sam. 12

➤ Paul- Acts 9





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➤ Holy hunger will lead you to a

BENEVOLENT SPIRIT

➤ Acts 3:1-8

➤ It is this same benevolent spirit that is demonstrated in:

➤ Acts 2:43-45

➤ Acts 4:34-37



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➤ Holy hunger will lead you to a

BOLD LIFE

- To speak unpopular truth- Acts 4:7-13a
- To defy unrighteous demands- Acts 4:18-21
- To accept uncomfortable consequences- Acts 4:23-31- (Listen to this beautiful prayer).
- To demonstrate unwavering faith- Acts 4:33-37