

“Unsatisfiable” - Matthew 11.16-24
April 23, 2023

Intro:

- Describe a time that someone close to you (spouse, parent, child, friend) gave you some criticism that ended up really helping you.

1. Jesus gets in our face because he’s trying to get to our hearts

- What’s your reaction to Jesus proclaiming judgment on whole cities in Israel?
- Jesus is addressing people who have MOST seen his works (his authority in how he teaches, over nature, over supernatural) and yet are unsatisfied and unsatisfiable. How similar or different are we to the people he’s addressing in Israel?
- In what ways do you see an “unsatisfied” or “unsatisfiable” spirit in your life?
- Why might the institutional church historically put up the most resistance to revival? How might we guard against this?

2. What makes God’s people unsatisfiable?

- Jesus identifies in his people a “suspicious interpretation” of both John the Baptist and himself (John is nuts; Jesus is a loose partier). Where do you see yourself making “suspicious interpretations” of others? Of Jesus?
- If their suspicious interpretation of Jesus was that he is a loose partier, what does that tell us about what Jesus is like and what his ministry looked like? Do you think our lives or our church’s ministry is similar to Jesus’? Why or why not?
- Chuck made the point that we see what we’re looking for, longing for or expecting (he illustrated by referring to watching a video looking for bouncing balls but missing a man in a gorilla suit waving to the camera). How have you seen this in your life? How do we address this problem?
- In what ways do you bring a consumer mentality to God? To church? How might we deal with this?
- Jesus says that Tyre and Sidon would have repented if he had done the same mighty works among them that he did in Israel. How does this hit you? How might this impact how you relate to those outside the church?

3. The HOPE—Jesus is getting at our hearts here!!

- What does this passage and Jesus’ pronouncement of “woe to you” reveal about his heart? How might this actually be an expression of love?
- What would it look like for us to operate with this same heart towards one another? How would we need to change?
- How can we pay more attention to how Jesus is at work and help each other to do so as well? Maybe spend some time sharing examples now and in future community group meetings.