

Formula to Being Blessed  
By Minister Emelyn McLeod

### **Hunger and Thirst After Righteousness**

Every one of us has experienced hunger. Have you ever been so hungry that you felt as if you were about to faint? You couldn't focus on anything mental or physical because your stomach was literally churning in knots. The only thing that would make it better is some form of sustenance to make you whole again. How about yard work on a hot summer day? After profusely sweating due to heat and overexertion, the only thing that our bodies long for is a nice cold glass of water. So, have you ever hungered and thirsted after righteousness? The bible says in **Matthew 5:6** ***"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."***

The world craves for money, power; obsess over beauty and many things that are trivial and foolish in God's eyes. As Christians, we must always keep our priorities straight by keeping our eyes focused on God and everything that pleases Him. To "hunger and thirst after righteousness" means to crave or long after the spiritual matters of God. Longing for holiness, the fruit of the Spirit, maturity and strength in times of weakness are ways we hunger and thirst after God's righteousness. When you are hungry or thirsty you are literally emptied of all reserves allowing you to be able to consume and drink until you are filled. When we come to God we must come to Him empty, longing for His Word and His spiritual strength. We have to come to Jesus with a deep craving to be better, longing for more of His wisdom and knowledge. We have to let go of all egos and pride and empty our hearts of all that is unlike Him. He is merciful. He will not allow us to starve but with great generosity and love, He fills us up. When we recognize that Jesus is the only One capable of offering us a solution to what we are missing in our spiritual lives, He will fill us up. **Psalm 107:9 states, "For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."**

We don't have to walk around feeling deprived, depressed, anxious or helpless. For our God has the ability to fill us. When we approach Him hungry and thirsty, we can absorb all of the good things that His Word has to offer our lives and we will be blessed. The key is to search for Him as if He is our last mode of survival so that He will see our emptiness, humility and desperation for His righteousness. The Word guarantees us that He will fill us! We will gain more wisdom, and knowledge. His Holy Spirit will intervene in every area of our life that is lacking. There are so many things that we ask God through prayer that we want and always expect Jesus to come through for us but there are some things that God requires for us to do first. We have to be empty, starving and thirsty for His righteousness. The Word guarantees that we will not only be filled but also blessed!