

# God-Filled Life

Message by Pastor Clay, The Naz

January 18th, 2026

[Link to Sunday Service](#)

## Summary

This week we focus on living a God-filled life based on Matthew 5:6, where Jesus says 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.' Everyone has an emptiness in their heart that can only be satisfied by Christ, not by worldly pursuits like pleasure, money, success, or possessions. Righteousness involves both being forgiven from sin's penalty and being freed from sin's power. We should all examine what we truly crave and cultivate in our lives, because sin has built-in consequences and our cravings can become idols that enslave us. As believers, we should seek Christ first, as He alone can satisfy the deepest longings of the soul and provide true fulfillment.

## Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather together today to study Your Word, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us. Help us to be honest about the cravings and desires in our lives, and give us the courage to examine where we might be seeking fulfillment in things other than You. Holy Spirit, guide our time together and help us to encourage one another as we grow in our understanding of what it means to live a God-filled life. We pray that You would use this time to draw us closer to You and to one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Ice Breaker

What's one thing you've been really excited to buy or achieve recently, and how did you feel after you got it?

## Key Verses

- Matthew 5:6
- John 6:35
- 1 Peter 2:24
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Psalm 63:1
- Philippians 3:8
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3
- Matthew 6:33

## Questions

1. Pastor Clay mentioned that Jesus presents two groups - the crowd and the disciples. Which group do you identify with more in your current relationship with Jesus, and why?
2. Righteousness has two sides: being forgiven from sin's penalty and being freed from sin's power. Which aspect do you find more challenging to embrace?
3. What does it look like practically to 'hunger and thirst for righteousness' in your daily life?
4. Pastor Clay said 'Our cravings for happiness pose a constant threat to our holiness in Christ.' Can you think of an example where this has been true in your life?
5. What are some specific things you find yourself craving or pursuing that might be competing with your devotion to Christ?
6. Pastor Clay mentioned that 'what changes your life is not changing what you do, but changing what you want to do.' How have you experienced this truth in your spiritual journey?
7. How can we practically 'starve' unhealthy cravings and 'feed' our hunger for righteousness in our daily routines?

## Life Application

This week, identify one specific craving or pursuit in your life that may be competing with your devotion to Christ. Commit to 'starving' that craving by removing or limiting your exposure to it, while simultaneously 'feeding' your hunger for righteousness through increased prayer, Bible reading, or worship. Ask God to help you love Him more than you love that particular sin or worldly pursuit.

## Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for revealing to us through Your Word what it means to truly hunger and thirst for righteousness. We confess that too often we have sought to fill the emptiness in our hearts with things that cannot be satisfied. Help us to turn away from the cravings that lead us away from You and instead cultivate a deep longing for You alone. Transform our hearts from the inside out, and help us to love You more than we love our sin. Give us the strength to pursue holiness, knowing that in You we will find true fulfillment and satisfaction. May our lives reflect a genuine hunger and thirst for righteousness, and may we experience the blessing of being filled by You. Jesus, in Your name we pray, Amen.