

Hunger and thirst for righteousness.

Intro:

- Introduce myself / family
- We are blessed, we are so blessed that sometimes that impairs/obstructs the way we see the rest of the world. These were wise words said to me by someone I look up to, (pastor Yamil Acevedo).

Introducing message:

We are in a series called Made for More and over the past few weeks we have been going over the famous sermon on the mount, also known as the beatitudes.

- Talk about the last two weeks (AJ, Mike)

Message –

This week I have the privilege of continuing our series made for more.

Let's begin by reading our scripture for today –

Matthew 5:5-6 NIV

⁵ Blessed are the meek,

for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

for they will be filled.

- Meekness is one of the eight qualities of character of a citizen of the Kingdom of God. (let's think about that for a bit). Jesus gives us 8 qualities of character...

The meek will inherit the earth.

I wonder how many of us this morning would be willing to carry that cross with joy, humility, in meekness?

Matthew 11:29. NIV

29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Jesus did, and because of that great sacrifice, you and I get the privilege of being called children of God.

Meekness is not a synonym for weakness -

Meekness is strength under control.

The meek have self-control, the meek are humble and teachable, the meek are bold, the meek forgive, the meek say I am sorry, and the meek serve others.

Any of these ring a bell?

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Illustration –

The host said, "Not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet."

In the parable of the great banquet, recorded in this same book of Matthew 22, Jesus makes a similar point:

Just because the meal is prepared, there is no guarantee the guests will want to eat it.

The missing prerequisite is the same characteristic described by Jesus in the fourth beatitude in [Matthew 5:6](#): **"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."**

What does Jesus say in this beatitude to those who come seeking God's blessing?

We need to be made aware of our emptiness.

Jesus says righteousness *is* the blessing. Hunger is the precondition. If you truly hunger and thirst for righteousness, God will provide it.

If you don't hunger and thirst for righteousness, you won't be interested in it, even if Jesus Christ were to send you an engraved invitation.

We need to be made aware of our emptiness.

But not only that,-

We need to accept our emptiness. (Meekness)

And last but not least important –

We must look to God to fill our emptiness.