Upside Down—Week #4 July 4, 2021

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness..."



To the leader:

Open your group in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions at the end of the page.

On Sunday, Pastor Dave continued in our summer series on the Beatitudes in Matthew 5 by talking about Jesus' blessing to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. The word "hunger" causes us to think about food but, truly, there are many non-food related cravings in our world that never truly satisfies. We learned that the key to understanding righteousness is to understand that it has to do with being "right" or to be right with God and to live right before God. In order to hunger and thirst for righteousness, we must long to be made right with God and to live right before Him.

"Satisfaction is not found in the world and its ways but in God and His ways."

What are some of the differences between the satisfaction of the world and that of the Lord?

Let's review the points from the message Sunday:

- 1. Long to be made right with God
- ♦ What exactly makes you right with God?
- ♦ Who, in your sphere of influence, needs to be made right with God? In what way are you going to commit to help them make that happen?

2. Long to live right before God

Stop filling up on junk food

- What are some spiritual junk foods that you have been filling up on recently?
- ♦ In what way have you found Jesus to be ultimate nourishment for you?

Start filling up on spiritual food

- In what way does Psalm 1 describe the things we should be filling up on?
 Memorize Psalm 1 this week!
- ♦ In what way can you get in the habit of memorizing to internalize God's truth starting today?

Start connecting with spiritual people

- What benefits have you experienced from being in community with other believers?
- What are a few names of people that you can invite into your group to experience the same community you have?

Three Essential Questions

- 1. What did you hear? What point in this message was most impactful for you?
- 2. What do you think? How did this message challenge, change or affirm your thinking?
- 3. **What will you do?** How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?