



ALL SAINTS

PRESBYTERIAN

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

FOR ALL SAINTS SMALL GROUPS

“Being Sated” | Rev. Josh Keller | September 29, 2019

Matthew 5:3-10

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **4** Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. **5** Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. **6** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. **7** Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. **8** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. **9** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. **10** Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

1 Kings 19:1-8

“Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. **2** Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.” **3** Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. **4** But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.” **5** And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, “Arise and eat.” **6** And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. **7** And the angel of the Lord came again a second time and touched him and said, “Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you.” **8** And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God.

Psalms 107:8-9

“Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! **9** For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

Intro Question

Jesus says in v.6 ‘blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied’. We are people who long for the rightness of things. Examine: (1) everything in its right place, (2) being sated and (3) hungering and thirsting. We ask ‘how does hunger and thirst bring about righteousness?’

Background

The beatitudes build upon each other. Jesus begins with a blessing for those **poor in spirit, those who mourn**, and the **meek**. The result of these conditions is a hunger and thirst for righteousness - a right direction in the eyes of God. The previous three beatitudes are from a posture of lacking, having nothing in the right places and receiving a blessing. The fourth beatitude is a shift, catapulting the remaining words of Jesus into fullness and satisfaction. What follows are beatitudes of fullness: giving **mercy, peace** and **purity**. Jesus knows in order to be full and satisfied, we are to remain hungry and thirsty.

In 1 Kings chapter 18 & 19 tells a beautiful story of Elijah concerned about things not being in their right places - being hungry and thirsty (literally). Elijah prophesied three years of drought in Israel. Israelites worshiped baal, the god of rain, and still there was no rain. People were hungry and thirsty. All of Israel showed up to Mt. Carmel and so did God through an extraordinary display of His power. Through rain, life was restored but not without the hunger and thirst that preceded. Shortly after, Elijah’s life was under threat, expected help to rise up and finds no one behind him. In v.4, Elijah, wanders and asks God to die. In the wilderness in the midst of despair God provides literal food. Scripture shows physical thirst/hunger is connected to worship. We are soul/body people and God speaks to us through this relationship. God then reveals to Elijah the rest of His plans. Elijah needed and God satisfied Elijah hunger.

Read Psalm 107. Hunger produces in us what we truly long for - God.

The secular things of this world then get put back into their place because we no longer need them to make us right. As they are put in their place, they do not give us life but are simply gifts from God who gives us life abundantly.

What does being sated look like? Being satisfied and yet hungering and thirsting after Jesus. On the cross, Jesus says ‘I thirst’. Jesus was turned into a desert so that a right relationship with God might become ours. Does being sated mean no longer hunger or thirst? Not exactly. Paradoxically, the words are active expressions to continuously be hungry and thirsty for Jesus.

Discuss:

1. How is it that we have gained righteousness from Christ and yet still need to “hunger and thirst” after righteousness?
2. What is the righteousness Jesus is talking about in v.6?
3. When was the last time you hungered after righteousness?
4. What is the nature of your hunger and thirst? How has God satisfied a recent longing and pointed you toward righteousness?

Conclusion/Application

Heavenly Father, O that I would hunger and thirst for You alone. Give me life that is holy according to Your measurement. Grant to me a righteousness that implies right direction in Your eyes. Let me refuse to be satisfied with anything less than You so I may savor the beauty of Christ. As I admire and worship, may You be the only satisfaction of my hunger and thirst so I can pour out mercy, peace and purity to those around me. Amen.

By: Blake Thompson