

Life Group Discussion Guide
Blessed Are Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness
January 22, 2017

Open in prayer.

- What questions have you had about God in the past that you've been able to answer? How did you come to your answer?
- Do you think asking questions about God helps you understand him more or less?
- *If God is small enough to be fully understood, then he isn't big enough to be God.* How do you respond to this statement?

Read Matthew 5:1-11. Today's beatitude - Matthew 5:6: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

- If the beatitudes are like an preamble to the Kingdom of God, what values does Jesus declare to be important in God's kingdom?
- How are these values different than an earthly kingdom?

BIG IDEA #1: The Beatitudes cannot be looked at in only one way. They are more than that. They are BOTH AND. The Beatitudes are not merely one thing or another – rules to live by or promises of the Kingdom of God. They are both – and so very much more.

- How are some beatitudes vertical and others horizontal? How is this beatitude both?
- The Greek verbs used in this verse are in the present progressive tense, which means they are continuous -- *to keep hungering* and *to keep thirsting*. Considering Jesus' use of these verbs, how does he want us to desire righteousness?

Read the following verses:

- Isaiah 61:10
- Romans 3:10-12
- Philippians 3:8-10
- Genesis 15:5-6
- What do these verses tell us about righteousness?
- How are we made righteous?

BIG IDEA #2: Righteous is the attitude and action that God expects of his faithful people. It is impossible to earn – Only God makes us righteous, but we must actively seek him and righteous.

My trust is not that I am holy, but that being unholy, he is my righteousness. -
Charles Spurgeon



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- What does it look like to be filled with righteousness? How are we to respond when God fills us?