WEST LAFAYETTE CHRISTIAN CHURCH | WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

HUNGRY ENOUGH?

Cultivating a Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

KEY PASSAGES Matthew 5:6; Colossians 3:1-3

Purpose

To examine what it means to hunger and thirst for righteousness, identify distractions that weaken our spiritual appetite, and practice concrete disciplines that make room for God.

Sermon Outline

I. A Question of Hunger

- **The provocation:** Gary Baker asks, "Are you hungry enough to do something about it?"
- **Illustration:** During mission work in Zimbabwe, physical hunger forced Gary and his team to depend on a local village for food and hospitality.

II. The Spiritual Application

- **The Beatitude:** Matthew 5:6 promises that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled.
- **The warning:** The world can "suck in" young people and believers, making intentional spiritual grounding essential.

III. Practical Steps to Spiritual Hunger

- **Cut out the junk food:** Identify and remove distractions that dull desire for God, including excessive screen time, social media, and endless reels.
- **Define righteousness:** Righteousness is living in right alignment with God by trusting His will, plans, and ways rather than relying on human striving.
- **Understand true satisfaction:** Jesus offers the living water and bread of life that satisfy more deeply than worldly substitutes.
- **Practice three disciplines:** Confess when your appetite for God has faded; fast from distractions; and make room for God through intentional solitude, devotion, and communion.

KEY TRUTH **Spiritual hunger grows when we turn from substitutes, surrender our striving, and intentionally make room for God.**

Small Group Discussion Guide

"What is one distraction you find hardest to step away from?"

Read Matthew 5:6 and Colossians 3:1-3 aloud as a group.

Discussion Questions

1. The “Hunger” Concept

Gary asked, “Are you hungry enough to do something about it?” How would you describe your present spiritual appetite: satisfied, hungry, distracted, or something else? What evidence supports your answer?

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2. Identifying Spiritual Junk Food

What currently functions as “spiritual junk food” in your life? How does it offer temporary satisfaction while leaving you spiritually weak or unfocused?

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3. Redefining Righteousness

The sermon describes righteousness not merely as human striving, but as living in alignment with God and allowing Him to work through us. In what area are you striving rather than surrendering to God’s will?

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4. Choosing a Discipline

Which discipline is most challenging for you right now: confessing, fasting, or making room? What specific step will you take this week, and how can the group support you?

PERSONAL APPLICATION This week I will fast from _____ and make room for God by _____.

Closing Prayer

Ask God to deepen your hunger for His righteousness, expose the distractions that weaken your desire for Him, and help you find lasting satisfaction in Christ.