

## A DIFFERENT KIND OF LIFE

# How to Develop a Spiritual Appetite

TEXT: Mt. 5:6

### INTRODUCTION:

We are examining 4 questions.

1. **What does it mean to hunger and thirst for righteousness?**
2. **What is the promise to those who hunger and thirst?**
3. **How do you know if you are?**
4. **How do you develop a Spiritual Appetite?**

Tonight we look at the final two with our object being to understand how we can grow a more consuming passion for righteousness and the things of God.

### I. WE MUST RECOGNIZE OUR NEED.

If we are not honest with ourselves about the level of our hunger and thirst, we will never desire to grow our spiritual appetite.

#### A. Are You Satisfied With Your Fellowship And Walk With The Lord?

1. Some say, "Why yes, preacher. I walked the aisle, was baptized, go to church (most of the time, mornings anyway, except when there is a reason of course.) I don't cuss, I don't chew and I don't go with girls that do."

Favorite song, "I Am Satisfied"

If that's your song, listen to the words, "I am satisfied with Jesus. The question comes to me... is my Master satisfied with me?"

If you are satisfied with yourself spiritually, you are not hungry and thirsty.

Pharisee – satisfied

Publican – hungry

2. Some say, "No, I'm like Paul in Rom. 7.

Rom. 7:18-19 <sup>18</sup> For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but *how to perform what is good I do not find.* <sup>19</sup> For the good that I will *to do*, I do not do; but the evil I will not *to do*, that I practice.

If you find yourself saying, “I’m always falling short. I’m not as close as I ought to be. I’m not as faithful as I ought to be.” Good! That’s a good indication that you are hungry and thirsty.

**B. How Do You React To The Invitation?**

1. Do you often feel the need to respond?  
A hungry man does. Sees his shortcomings.  
Wants a closer walk. Feels his need.
2. If you can stand invitation after invitation and never have a desire to respond, never feel the need, never hear the Lord speaking to you – you’re just not hungry, you’re not thirsty for righteousness.

**C. What Brings You The Greatest Satisfaction?**

1. Success at work or school
2. More money
3. More possessions
4. More popularity
5. More power
6. More pleasure
- ...
7. Or more righteousness

**Whatever brings the greatest satisfaction to you; that’s what you’re hungry for.**

**D. How Much Spiritual Food Do You Want?**

1. Is the Worship Service enough without Lifechange groups?
2. Is Lifechange groups enough without Worship?
3. Is Sunday AM enough?
4. Sunday only without any private time in between?

A person who is not really hungry doesn’t want much. A hungry person wants it all.

It is sadly amazing to hear someone say, “I want to grow.” who seldom comes on Sunday PM, who misses Lifechange group at any little excuse.

A hungry man never misses a meal.  
A thirsty woman never passes a well.

Are you hungry and thirsty?

How do you develop a Spiritual Appetite?

## II. DESIRE A CHANGE.

You can know need, see need, know promise.

Before things will be different, you must want them to be different.

## III. STOP FEASTING ON JUNK FOOD.

Remember the question earlier?

What do people do to gain satisfaction?

Facebook, Tweeting, the Vine, Video Games, Pinterest

Football, live or TV

Other TV

Hobby or recreation

Pleasure reading

Shopping

Phone

I'm not saying everything has to be eliminated, but don't let them be the main course of your diet.

These things are our junk food.

## IV. DON'T MISS MEALS

"Don't have time."

We don't all have the same amount of money. Don't all have the same talents or spiritual gifts.

We all have the same amount of time. The only difference is how we use it.

A hungry man always has time to eat.

## V. KEEP A SIMPLE, BALANCED DIET.

- A. Personal Bible Reading/Faithful Study with others and from others
- B. Personal Prayer Life/Public Worship
- C. Service
- D. Witness & Mission