

## **Day 1:** **The Search for Something More**

### **Devotional**

Have you ever felt like something was missing? Despite having access to more entertainment, opportunities, and experiences than any generation before us, many people today feel deeply unsatisfied. We scroll through social media, buy the latest gadgets, chase career success, or seek the perfect relationship, yet that gnawing sense of emptiness remains. This restlessness isn't a flaw in our character—it's actually a God-given longing that points us toward something greater. Jesus understood this universal human experience when He spoke about those who "hunger and thirst." He wasn't talking about physical needs, but about the deep spiritual hunger that exists in every human heart. This hunger is actually a gift because it drives us to seek what truly satisfies. The world offers countless substitutes, but they're like junk food for the soul—they might taste good momentarily, but they leave us malnourished and craving more. Jesus offers something different. He promises that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will find the satisfaction they've been searching for all along. This isn't about becoming perfect or earning God's approval through good behavior. It's about recognizing that our deepest need can only be met by pursuing what God values and living according to His design for our lives.

### **Bible Verse**

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." - Matthew 5:6

### **Reflection Question**

What are you currently pursuing to find satisfaction in your life, and how might God be using your sense of restlessness to draw you toward something greater?

### **Quote**

There's not a person in this room, there's not a person watching on social media or anywhere else that this may end up getting out to. That's not

hungering and thirsting for satisfaction. That's what we're. That's what you're hungering for. That's what you're thirsting for.

### **Prayer**

Lord, thank You for the restlessness in my heart that reminds me I was made for more than this world can offer. Help me recognize that my deepest longings can only be satisfied in You. Guide me as I begin to understand what it means to hunger and thirst for righteousness. Amen.

## **Day 2: Understanding True Righteousness**

### **Devotional**

When we hear the word "righteousness," we might think of someone who's morally superior or self-righteous. But biblical righteousness is something entirely different. It means being right or just according to God's standards, not our own or society's. Here's the beautiful truth: righteousness isn't something we achieve through our own efforts. The Bible is clear that we are naturally unrighteous and incapable of meeting God's perfect standards. But through Jesus Christ's sacrificial death, His righteousness has been placed upon all who believe. This is the foundation of our relationship with God—not our performance, but Christ's perfect life credited to our account. However, righteousness has two dimensions. First, there's our standing before God through Christ—this never changes once we believe. Second, there's how righteousness works itself out in our daily lives through our actions, attitudes, and choices. This is where the hunger and thirst comes in. As we grow in our relationship with God, we develop an increasing desire to live in ways that honor Him and reflect His character. This isn't about earning salvation, but about becoming more like Jesus because we love Him and want to please Him.

### **Bible Verse**

"Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness." - Genesis 15:6

### **Reflection Question**

How does understanding that righteousness is a gift from God rather than something you earn change your motivation for living a godly life?

### **Quote**

So he became what we were so that we could become like Him. That's good stuff.

### **Prayer**

Father, thank You for the gift of righteousness through Jesus Christ. Help me understand that my standing before You is secure because of what Christ has done, not what I do. Give me a growing desire to live righteously out of love and gratitude, not fear or obligation. Amen.

## **Day 3: The Struggle is Real**

### **Devotional**

Let's be honest—living righteously is hard. There are times when our lives match our testimony and validate the power of Christ. But then there are those moments when we continue to talk about Jesus while struggling with things in our lives that don't align with what we say we believe. This internal battle is real, and every believer faces it. The struggle becomes even more challenging when others point to the failures of Christians around us, making us feel like our faith is invalidated by someone else's poor choices. But here's what we need to remember: we're fighting a really hard fight, and we're not meant to fight it alone. Most of our frustration comes from trying to live righteously in our own strength and power. We fail over and over, ending up discouraged and guilty. The truth is, we don't have the natural ingredients to live this life successfully. We need to turn to God moment by moment, positioning ourselves where He is in control so He can accomplish what He desires to accomplish through us. This doesn't mean we become passive, but rather that we learn to depend on God's Spirit rather than our own willpower. The Christian life isn't about perfection—it's about progression as we learn to rely more fully on God's strength.

### **Bible Verse**

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." - 1 John 1:9

### **Reflection Question**

In what areas of your life are you trying to live righteously in your own strength, and how can you begin to depend more on God's power instead?

### **Quote**

We struggle with so much because most days we're trying to do these things by our own strength and power and ingenuity. We fail over and over and we end up frustrated with guilt and failure.

### **Prayer**

Lord, I confess that I often try to live the Christian life in my own strength and end up frustrated and defeated. Help me learn to turn to You moment by moment, depending on Your Spirit rather than my own willpower. Thank You for Your patience with me as I grow. Amen.

## **Day 4: Desperate for What's Right**

### **Devotional**

Jesus uses powerful imagery when He talks about hungering and thirsting for righteousness. He's not describing casual interest or mild preference—He's talking about desperate need. When you're truly hungry, food becomes your primary focus. When you're genuinely thirsty, finding water consumes your thoughts. This is the kind of intensity Jesus wants us to have for righteousness. But what does this look like practically? It means pursuing righteousness through faith, standing up for what is right even when it's difficult, and protecting what God values. It means being willing to go against the crowd when necessary and choosing God's ways over the world's ways, even when it costs us something. This kind of desperate pursuit requires us to know what God says is right. We can't hunger and thirst for something we don't understand. This is where God's Word becomes essential—it shows us His character and His standards. When we're truly desperate for righteousness, we won't just stand by when we see injustice or when people we love are being destroyed by sin. We'll be compelled to act, to speak up, to make a difference. This isn't about being judgmental or self-righteous—it's about caring so deeply about what God cares about that we can't remain passive.

### **Bible Verse**

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God." - Psalm 42:1

### **Reflection Question**

What would it look like for you to pursue righteousness with the same intensity that a starving person pursues food or a thirsty person seeks water?

### **Quote**

If you go after what God says is right. You will find in that pursuit the contentment and the peace and the hope and the joy and all of those things that you know you want and you're hoping that this other stuff that the world has to offer will give you.

### **Prayer**

God, create in me a desperate hunger and thirst for righteousness. Help me care deeply about what You care about and give me the courage to stand up for what is right, even when it's difficult. Make Your Word come alive in my heart so I can know and pursue Your ways. Amen.

## **Day 5: The Promise of Satisfaction**

### **Devotional**

Here's the incredible promise Jesus makes: if you hunger and thirst for righteousness, you will be satisfied. This isn't just a future hope—it's a present reality. When we pursue what God says is right, we find the contentment, peace, hope, and joy that we've been searching for all along. The world offers many substitutes, but they're like drinking salt water—they promise to quench our thirst but leave us more desperate than before. Only Jesus can truly satisfy the deepest longings of our hearts. But this satisfaction isn't just personal—it has a ripple effect. When we're satisfied in Christ and living righteously, we become like trees of life to others. People around us are hungry and thirsty too, and they need to see what genuine satisfaction looks like. They need us to live in such a way that demonstrates the reality of Christ's power to transform lives. This is why sharing our faith is so important. How tragic it would be to receive the gift of salvation but never pass it on to others. The gospel shouldn't die with us—it should flow through us to reach others who are desperately searching for what we've found in Jesus. When we live satisfied lives because we're pursuing righteousness, we become living testimonies to the power and goodness of God.

### **Bible Verse**

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and the one who is wise saves lives." - Proverbs 11:30

### **Reflection Question**

How can your pursuit of righteousness and the satisfaction you find in Christ become a blessing and testimony to others around you who are still searching?

### **Quote**

And people are hungry and people are thirsty, and we need to give them Jesus. It's Jesus that they need. And if you have tasted of him and if you have. If you have drunk from the living water, you know how satisfying it is that Jesus does for us what nothing else can.

### **Prayer**

Lord, thank You for the promise that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be satisfied. Help me experience this satisfaction daily and become a tree of life to others. Use my life to point people to You and the true satisfaction that can only be found in Christ. Amen.