

Satisfied Series – Part 3

Lie #3: Success makes me important)

Pastor Brian Coles

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Matthew 5:6 English Standard Version (ESV)

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Hunger and thirst are really a strong desire.

Psalm 42:1-2

¹ As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

Psalm 63:1-2

¹ You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

Isaiah 55:1-2

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. ² Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.

1. Physical or material needs must be satisfied through physical or material sources.

Spiritual needs must be satisfied through spiritual sources.

Scripture uses this imagery of hunger and thirst to help us understand that when you have a physical/ material need like hunger, you satisfy that need through physical or material source.

But when we have a spiritual hunger and thirst, a spiritual need, it can only be satisfied through a spiritual source.

(story of being thirsty after eating pizza)

James 2:15-17

¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

Tracy and I have had moments in ministry where discerning between the two has been hard.

Mission’s trip student is depressed and crying emotionally, and they are asking for prayer because they feel so far from God. The truth is that they were exhausted.

I have talked with men who express problems with the marriage, their kids, their confidence. They ask where God is.

I have had people tell me about all their troubles and problems and needs, and as I’m listening I have the sense that something else is going on, and I’ll ask, “do you need to confess something?”

(Are you scared or are you hurt?)

Sometimes the most spiritual thing you can do is to take a nap.

- 2. Every human being is created in the image and likeness of God and therefore is inherently valuable, possesses innate worth, and intrinsic importance.**

Genesis 1:26

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness,

Psalm 139: 1-16, 23-24

Matthew 10:29-31

²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. ³⁰ And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

- 3. If you chase after success without God, you will not recognize success or God.**

“Our greatest fear should not be of failure, but of succeeding at something that doesn't really matter.”

— D.L. Moody

Philippians 2:3

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,

Joshua 1:7

⁷ “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.”