

## Week 4: Hunger and Thirst

- 1. Part of our "Life Together" is sharing about our lives together. Take some time to share about your summer plans. Is there a trip you are looking forward to this year? Maybe a vacation you didn't get to take last year? Also, take some time as a group to plan a "get together" or two over the summer so that your calendars don't get so full you don't make time for each other.
- 2. Pastor Dan shared how early in his spiritual journey he saw a relationship with Jesus and the pursuit of righteousness as more of a list of "No's" rather than a better yes. Did you relate to this, do you still relate to this? Is this how your unbelieving friends and family see it? Discuss.
- 3. Read **John 4:4-26**, **John 6:35**, **John 7:37-38** together. Considering Pastor Dan's sermon, what sticks out to you as you re-read these passages? As you consider the samaritan woman as one who has sought to fulfill her hunger and thirst in places outside of Jesus, what is God showing you in your own life?
- 4. Read Matthew 5:6. Pastor Dan shared that righteousness here is probably not best understood justification as in the Apostle Paul's teaching, but in the sense of covenant faithfulness. Jesus simplified this righteousness in Matt. 22:37-40, and Matt. 7:12. Which of these relationships is most challenging for you, right relationship with God, Others, or Loving Yourself?
- 5. Pastor Dan shared that the call to **righteousness** is not one of **restriction** but an **invitation**. **Read Phil. 3:9, 2 Cor. 5:21, and Matt. 6:33**. How is Jesus inviting your to pursue HIM and HIS righteousness as a result of this beatitude?
- 6. Many of our addictions and bad habits and attitudes start as coping mechanisms. Over eating, over spending, over drinking, over sexing, over-compensating, overworrying, all of these reveal a *deep longing inside of us, a yearning in our souls*. Some of us have even crossed lines because of our appetites what we've hungered and thirsted for. Jesus' way is different, he says "seek me, hunger and thirst for me. I am the solution to the yearning of your soul." How do you seek Jesus, how do you hunger and thirst for him? What spiritual practices/disciples help you find satisfaction in Jesus rather than destructive and dysfunctional "junk foods?" Share and learn from one another!