### BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

11-15-2020

Blessed are those who <u>hunger and thirst for righteousness</u>, for <u>they shall be satisfied</u>.

Matthew 5:6

If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. C.S. Lewis

... Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:11

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.

My soul <u>thirsts for God</u>, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"

Psalm 42:1-3

Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

### WHAT DOESN'T WORK?

- RULE-CENTERED CHRISTIANITY.
- LUKEWARM CHRISTIANITY.

O God, you are my God; earnestly <u>I seek you</u>; my soul <u>thirsts for you</u>; my flesh <u>faints for you</u>, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Psalm 63:1

O God, you are our God; earnestly <u>we seek you</u>; our souls <u>thirst for you</u>; our churches, our homes <u>faint for you</u>, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

## WE ARE MADE RIGHTEOUS BY FAITH ALONE.

... not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith...

Philippians 3:9

## WHAT DOES WORK?

# 1) INVOLVE GOD IN YOUR CONVERSATIONS.

"In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect"

1 Peter 3:15

### 2) MAKE CHURCH NON-NEGOTIABLE.

Let us <u>hold fast</u> the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to <u>stir up one another</u> to love and good works, <u>not neglecting to meet together</u>, as is the habit of some, but <u>encouraging one another</u>, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:23-25

# 3) SEEK GOD DAILY.

But seek <u>first</u> the kingdom of God **and** <u>his righteousness</u>, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:33

... choose this day whom you will serve... But as for me and <u>my house</u>, <u>we will serve the LORD</u>." Joshua 24:15