

FINDING HAPPINESS

HAPPY ARE THE HUNGRY AND THIRSTY

January 24, 2016

1. Open in prayer.
2. Read Matthew 5:6. Jesus says that our happiness is discovered in hungering and thirsting for righteousness.
 - What are things you've hungered and thirsted for that you thought would bring you happiness and satisfaction, but did not?
3. Pastor Derwin taught that the term "righteousness" in the 1st Century, 2nd Temple Jewish Context meant "Faithfulness to God's Covenant," which is revealed in Matthew 22:36-40.
 - a. Read Matthew 22:36-40.
 - b. Loving God, loving yourself, and loving your neighbor as yourself, displays the beauty, happiness, and purpose for which humanity was created. What are your thoughts about this statement?
 - c. The Covenant (love God, yourself, and your neighbor as yourself) also reveals how our sin distorts and disfigures God's purpose for humanity. How have you known this to be true?
4. Pastor Derwin taught, "Jesus fulfilled the covenant for us because we could not."
 - a. How did Jesus do this epic work of grace on our behalf?
 - b. Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Psalm 85:10.
 - c. According to 2 Corinthians 5:21, what did Jesus become on the cross? And what did we become?
 - d. Jesus fulfills the statement made in Psalm 85:10.
 - Jesus, out of love, was faithful to the Covenant for us because we couldn't be (Matthew 5:17). And His righteousness and His peace kiss each other on the cross. The outcome is that we are God's own righteousness and His people.
 - Discuss what this means to you personally.
5. How do you EMBODY God's righteousness?
 - a. Love God completely. Love yourself correctly. Love your neighbor compassionately.
 - b. For 1st Century, 2nd Temple Jews, to love your neighbor would have been shaped by Leviticus 19:8-19. Read that passage of scripture.
 - c. To love your neighbor means to:
 - Vs. 9-10: Live generously financially (giving to church and other causes)
 - Vs. 11-12: Live with honesty and integrity towards others.
 - Vs. 13-16: Live in such a way you do not oppress or hurt people.
 - Vs. 17-19: Live a life of forgiveness and grace.
 - d. We also love our neighbor by introducing people to Jesus. Invite the lost to service to hear the Gospel!

Soul-tattoo: Learn to eat and drink, so that you can be happy and God can be glorified!

Who We Are – Class One
How We Live – Class Two

February 10
February 24

Wednesday evening
Wednesday evening

Close in prayer.