

**Chapter 4: He leads me beside quiet waters.**

Developing The Thirst

In Matthew 5:6 Jesus said, “*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.*”

According to Micah 6:8, what does the Lord require from us? Write examples of how one can “thirst for righteousness” by fulfilling these requirements.

**It is sobering to reflect on some of the statistics about hunger.**

- It is estimated that some 800 million people in the world suffer from hunger and malnutrition.
- Every 3.6 seconds someone dies of hunger.
- The Indian subcontinent has nearly half of the world’s hungry people. Africa and the rest of Asia together have approximately 40% and the remaining hungry people are found in Latin America and other parts of the world.
- Half of all children under 5 years of age in South Asia and one third of those in sub-Saharan Africa are malnourished. And this in a world where so many western children suffer from obesity?!

In desert communities such as the one Jesus was addressing, hunger means starvation and thirst means a desperate need for water in order to survive. So when Jesus blesses those that hunger and thirst after righteousness, he is not merely talking about those who think that seeking out righteousness is neat idea, He is saying: “blessed are those who long for righteousness as a starving person longs for food and as a person perishing from thirst desires water to soothe their cracked and parched mouth and throat”

How do the following Scripture passages further describe the thirst we should have for the Lord?  
Psalm 42:1-2; Psalm 63:1; Psalm 143:6

*Drawing Water from The Shepherd's Well*

The Lord as our Shepherd provides water to quench our thirst. However, there are other waters that we can be persuaded to drink from. What does the prophet Jeremiah tell us that the Lord said were two sins that His people have committed in Jeremiah 2:13?

When we search for fulfillment elsewhere we will find emptiness or “broken cisterns that hold no water.”

Read John 4:1-26. This is the story about Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. For what was the woman seeking for physically? Spiritually?

In verse 14 what does Jesus tell the woman about the water He gives?

Describe what Jesus means in John 7:37-39 by saying . . .  
“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.”

“Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”

When we are saved the Holy Spirit indwells us and He leads us to fulfill our thirst. He will always lead us to righteousness – the things of Christ.