

MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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BLESSED LONGING

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*Matthew 5:6
"Blessed are those who
hunger and thirst for right-
eousness, for they shall be
satisfied."*

As human beings, we are overrun with longings for all kinds of things that we believe will make us whole. Often when these desires are met, we find that we are still not satisfied, and so we begin to chase something else again. These ceaseless longings feel like a curse. We feel condemned to a fruitless search for an elusive fullness.

But there is one longing that our Lord proclaims a blessing and promises that He will meet. Jesus declares that those who hunger and thirst af-

ter righteousness are blessed because they will be satisfied. Jesus is here describing those who deeply, passionately desire God's righteousness. They long to live lives fully aligned with God's will and way. They want it so badly, it literally hurts. It is a soul hunger that will not be abated until it finds genuine fulfillment. This is a glorious longing. It is a longing for the kind of relationship with God that alone can fill our inner void, and counter the seeming meaninglessness of life.

Christ promises that those who truly long for righteousness will find it. And the reality is that they will find it in Him. Paul underscores this idea in Philippians 3 when he acknowledged that he had abandoned any attempt to develop a righteousness of his own, but was doggedly pursuing the righteousness that can only come from Christ (Philippians 3:7-9). And he found it. And he continued to pursue it (13-14)!

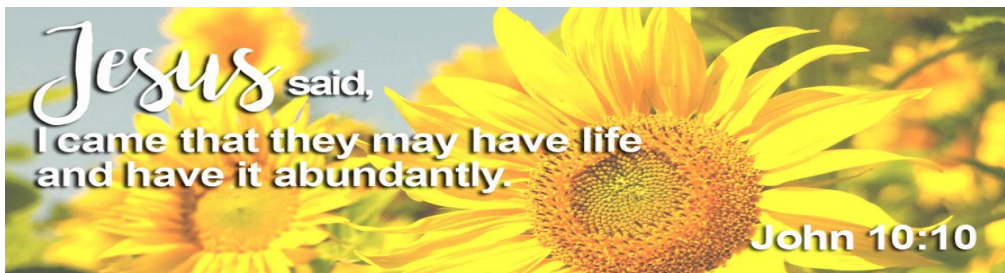
What about you? Are you hungry? Are you thirsty? For righteousness? Do you long for God's will more than pleasures, riches, or recognition? Do you want Jesus more than anything? Then God promises that He will satisfy your longing heart. Pursue Christ. Receive Him as Savior. Embrace Him as Lord of your life. Then you will discover the true righteousness that is rooted in a personal relationship with Jesus. And the deeper that relationship grows, the sweeter it gets. And the sweeter it gets, the more you desire it. You'll find your journey with Christ to be an ever deepening and fulfilling adventure.

Lord, make us hungry and thirsty for You.

God bless you,

Pastor James

DON'T SETTLE FOR LESS THAN GOD'S BEST!



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

November 3

Join us via Zoom video
Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

ONLINE GROWTH GROUPS
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

November 5 & 6

Plan to join either day this week
Sign-up via email at mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com or call for log on details.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

November 8

In-person service and livestream.
Livestreaming only on Facebook and our church's website.

QUICK TIPS

Two ways to give your offering.
Traditional with a check by mail or through our secured website online giving is now possible. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

November 6

Youth meetings are in-person at church.

VIRTUAL KIDZONE
SUN @ 4 PM

November 8

Kidzone is available every Sunday.
Contact Candice at candicebrich@gmail.com for log on information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We are ready to welcome you back to in-person worship at 11 am on Sundays. Just call ahead at 570 856 3310 or email us at mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com to let us know you are coming.
- We plan to start an evening service on the 3rd Sundays starting in November. Please send an email to mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com to note whether you would prefer (and attend) an in person meeting or online meeting.
- Please pray for Peg Korkidas as she recuperates from surgery.
- Please pray for Dawnell Exil-Moore as she continues to recuperate from surgery.
- Northwest Christian School is having its annual fundraising pie sale. Check out this website for more information: ncsnj.org.
- We need 20 volunteers to help meet the Christmas gift wishes of some of the residents at the Garden at Stroud. If you would like to participate, contact Tom at 570 223 9550.
- For our Thanksgiving outreach this year, we will be giving out gift cards instead of food baskets. If you'd like to contribute, you may send your donation with your usual giving. Please be sure to note clearly what amount is for the Thanksgiving Outreach.
- If you are interested in learning basic music (primarily for church worship purposes), please come to church on Saturdays at 5 pm for free instructions in keyboard, guitar and drumming. For more information please contact Dwain Gayle at 347 677 2923.
- Please see our webpage for detailed information on in-person gatherings.