

**For the week ahead:**

- This week think about the places/times you have had to connect with God in deep and meaningful ways. What are you doing? Where are you? Once that's defined...make the effort to put yourself in one of those places and times and soak up being with God.
- Take time to walk this week and while you walk, pray. Go somewhere where you are forced to see other people's faces while you talk with God. Statistics tell us most of the people you see will come from some kind of brokenness or pain—broken homes, abuse, financial stress, poverty. Pray for the people you see and see where that takes your prayers.

My thoughts /ideas about following the sacrilegious ways  
of Jesus...this week:

**Next week's chapter in Sacrilege =  
Chapter 8 - Sin in the Periphery**

# Adventures in *Missional* Living

## Week #4 - God on the Go

### Chapter 7 in Sacrilege



“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled” (Matt. 5:6 NIV).

Most often this verse gets translated as: “Blessed are those who live upstanding moral lives, for they will have special standing with God.” We’ve totally missed the point! Jesus, when he spoke these words isn’t talking about morality or special standing. What he’s talking about is how we treat our spiritual lives. And he was talking about balance in these lives!

Most of us don’t live in balance in our spiritual lives. It seems we face our spiritual lives with either deprivation or bingeing. We either go way overboard or ignore our lives completely. What Jesus longs for us is for us to have balance - a constant longing that leads to a continual, on-going satisfaction of those longings, brought through our encounters with God, in ways that bring life and joy!

Living with God as part of all of our lives is what brings what God desires - growth in our lives. That’s what it means to live with God on the go!

## Getting started:

- What are foods and/or activities you crave? What is it about them that you love?
- Have you ever been really, really hungry or thirsty? Tell about the experience. What happened? What were you feeling?
- Hunger and thirst are easily understood as a concept (although most of us in the USA know more about indulgence than deprivation). Describe a healthy approach to eating and water consumption. Use these descriptions to guide your understanding of righteousness and being filled by God.
- What are things in your life you “hunger and thirst” for? What is it about these things that you desire?

## Going further

**Hunger and thirst cannot be satisfied** in the same way for every person. What is filling to you may not fill someone else. It’s like a expecting vegetarian and a meat-loving, Omaha-Steaks-monthly-subscribing carnivore to be filled by the exact same meal. It can happen, but it’s rare. What fills you? Is it beauty, art, a hike, car races, alone time, or time with people? Do you have a particular scent you love, flavor you crave, or sport that causes you to immediately feel alive?

When Eric Liddell, a famous British Olympian, was struggling with his purpose which felt more spiritual and a talent that was God-given, he said, “I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel His pleasure.” Where do you know God’s pleasure? Where do you connect with his heart? When do you feel alive? At what moments do you know you’re divinely connected to the Almighty? Talk about these things.

**Have you ever** hungered and thirsted for God? What does this mean to you? If you have, what does it feel like? What did you do in response to this hunger?

**Have you ever had a time** when you were dry, dry, dry in your spiritual journey? When it was hard to open up a Bible or stop to pray? When the last place you wanted to be was at a church service? During this time did you become jaded against pat Christian answers and promises of easy spiritual growth? If you answered yes to any of these - can you share about this time? What was it like? What helped you get out of the funk (If you have)?

**Have you ever** fallen into the trap of thinking that righteousness is about working harder to perfect some/all the spiritual practices you know? What is that like for you? What if you could see thirsting and hungering for righteousness as a hunger to grow into the life Jesus modeled for us? How might that change your perceptions?

## **Keep track...**

As you read through the *Sacrilegious* book, mark those things that sound shocking to you in some way. Maybe highlight them, write them in your journal, or circle them, but keep track. Collect your thoughts as you go, and each time you gather with friends or a discussion group, share those things that just may just change the way you think, live, or relate to Jesus or other people.

## Quotable Quotes

**Look at the following quotes** from the book “*Sacrilege*”...what in them do you agree with? What makes you go “hmmmm”? What do you question... and what makes you ask those questions? What makes you uncomfortable? And what is it about it that makes you uncomfortable?

*“We can choose our focus in spite of all that is happening around us...it’s up to me to tune in. Sometimes “wild adventure” (with God) comes simply by embracing interruption, a willingness to stop and listen to someone without hurry...or a quiet act of service that lightens a friend’s burden or celebrating a win with a buddy who’s been lapping from the trough of hard luck.” pg 124*

*“To Jesus, spiritual formation isn’t solely cognitive. It’s visceral. It includes and can be helped by classic practices, but it will only grow exponentially when you are involved with real people in significant conversations and life experiences. Spiritual formation is not passive or hermit like; it is out there, engaging in culture.” pg 127*