

Group/Individual Study

Series: "Bless this Home" - Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

Passages: Matt 5:6,

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 4/30

1. In this series we're talking about what it is like to let Jesus' love and grace permeate the places we call "home" and the relationships that are most "core" for us. (spouses, kids, friends, family, etc). This is much more than just looking put together at church and on Sundays. What challenges do you experience in bringing the best of Jesus into your home and core relationships?
2. Read Matthew 5:6. Give some good, real life examples of how this can play out in your home and closest relationships? Share a time recently when you or someone in your household "got it right." (Don't be modest!)
3. Gary made the distinction between a "Christian home" and a "Christ-centered home." By a "Christian home," he meant that while key members are believers (if not all), the influence of Jesus doesn't show up much in the personal interactions or in the way the household blesses others. A "Christ-centered home" is one where the actual ways of relating to people in our homes are Christ-like -- as is our home's influence on others. Do you ever feel this tension? How so?
4. If we don't fill our homes with hungering and thirsting for God and for living His way, what are the things that we can hunger and thirst for instead? What stimulates your hunger and thirst for God? What satisfies the hunger/thirst?
5. Gary talked about how Christ-centered homes don't just happen, but rather take intentionality and planning. What elements of Christ-centered living have you found don't happen well without forward planning and prioritization? What elements seem to be more spontaneous? Do the two relate?
6. We also talked about how a frenetic pace of life works against Christ-centeredness at home. How have you found this in your own life and home? What have you found that helps create space and pace for Christ-centeredness?