

## Matthew 5:6 (Hunger & Thirst) Leader Notes

1. **Read Psalm 42:1-4, Psalm 63:1-5, and Psalm 107:5-9. What connections do you notice between the three passages in Psalms and Matthew 5:6?**

There are several connections that can be made here as this question prepares the group for the discussion that arises from the following questions.

2. **After viewing the lesson and reading the verse, share what you believe it means to you to be a person who hungers and thirsts for righteousness.**

Here are some notes for this question, as well as questions 3, 4, and 5: wait for a few moments for people to answer (most people can't stand to sit in more than 8 seconds of silence). If no one jumps at the opportunity to share, as the leader (s), please share what stood out to you.

3. **Where do you currently see God instituting His righteousness and justice in the world?**

See notes on question 2. Also, if no one can think of some examples, narrow the question by asking the group where they see things like: people coming to the Lord, new churches, new mission organizations, etc. Group members can also share a story about a time they or someone they know were on a mission trip and saw God move in amazing or even simple ways.

4. **In the video, Brian quoted Psalm 34:8, "Taste and see that the Lord is good." Share about a time when you tasted the Lord's goodness in your life.**

See notes on question 2. Also, if no one can think of some examples, narrow the question by asking the group to brag on God's work in their life—how did God provide for them during a time when they were in need or thought no one cared?

5. **Read James 1:22-27 and James 2:14-26. According to these verses, how does God use Christians to bring righteousness into communities? Share some examples that you've either experienced, witnessed, or heard about.**

See notes on questions 2 and 3. If no one in the group is sharing, narrow the question by asking the group where they see things like: where the hurting are being helped through the meeting of basic needs (medical assistance, shelters, etc.), etc. Also, let them know they can also share about a story of God's faithfulness in someone else's life or perhaps

an amazing story that someone else shared with them.

**6. Who are the “orphans and widows” in your community? What can you practically do to make a difference in their life?**

See notes on question 2. If no one in the group has examples of “orphans and widows” then ask them to name some people in their lives or communities that need help (e.g., people that are marginalized, those who are hurting, individuals who are alone, etc.).

**7. Take a few minutes to:**

- **Write down the name of someone you know who is in need.**
- **Now, write down how you could meet their need or help them towards the goal of meeting their needs.**
- **Finally, if you’re comfortable doing so, share your name and plan to help meet their needs with the group.**

If you have a chance to give the group time to do this exercise, it would be good... but don't feel pressure to rush through the other questions (if you're having healthy discussion) to do this exercise. If you run out of time but still want to take part in this exercise one idea is for group members to do this on their own time during the week and share what they've written with other group members via email or text.