

# Celebration and Worship

Sunday, August 26, 2007

For your benefit, as well as for those around you, we offer child-care for birth - three year old. An usher/greeter will assist you to the preschool area. Our Sunday morning service is broadcast weekly at 11:00 a.m. on WKXX, 102.9 FM. **Please turn off your cell phones during service time.**

## **LIVING HAPPILY EVER AFTER: LIVING HAPPY... HUNGRY... FILLED**

*Blessed are the poor in spirit, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Blessed are those who mourn, because they will be comforted. Blessed are the gentle, because they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, because they will be filled. (Matthew 5:3-6 HCSB)*

### **JESUS USES “HUNGER AND THIRST” TO SPEAK OF MY DEEPEST DESIRE**

*“Righteousness is uprightness because we are down-right.”*

### **JESUS’ CALL FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A CALL FOR ME TO BE RIGHT WITH GOD**

*As a deer longs for streams of water, so I long for You, God. I thirst for God, the living God. (Psalms 42:1-2 HCSB)*

### **GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS IS GIVEN TO ME THEN, NOW AND FOREVER**

“**THEN**” refers to the moment we trust in Christ by faith.

*He (God) presented Him (Jesus) to demonstrate His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be righteous and declare righteous the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:26 HCSB)*

“**NOW**” refers to the work of the Holy Spirit within each person of faith.

*...God is working in you, [enabling you] both to will and to act for His good purpose. (Philippians 2:13 HCSB)*

“**FOREVER**” refers to the day that we’re longing for—a coming day when all who are in Christ Jesus will stand before the presence of God without fault, without blame, without spot or wrinkle.

### **TEST YOUR HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS**

#### **1. DO I SEE THROUGH MY OWN FALSE RIGHTEOUSNESS?**

*“There is no one righteous, no not one.” (Romans 3:10)*

*We are all infected and impure with sin. When we proudly display our righteous deeds, we find they are but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall. And our sins, like the wind, sweep us away. (Isaiah 64:6 NLT)*

Strongly Disagree...      ... Somewhat Agree...      ...Strongly Agree  
 1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

**2. DO I AVOID EVERYTHING THAT IS OPPOSED TO RIGHTEOUSNESS?**

Strongly Disagree...      ... Somewhat Agree...      ...Strongly Agree  
 1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

**3. DO I AVOID THOSE THINGS THAT DULL MY HUNGER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS?**

Strongly Disagree...      ... Somewhat Agree...      ...Strongly Agree  
 1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

**4. DO I DISCIPLINE MYSELF DAILY TOWARD RIGHTEOUSNESS?**

*And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is. (Romans 12:1-2 NLT)*

Strongly Disagree...      ... Somewhat Agree...      ...Strongly Agree  
 1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

**5. DO I ALWAYS PUT MYSELF IN THE PLACE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS?**

Strongly Disagree...      ... Somewhat Agree...      ...Strongly Agree  
 1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

**6. AM I INCREASING IN MY DAILY BIBLE STUDYING AND PRAYER TIME?**

Strongly Disagree...      ... Somewhat Agree...      ...Strongly Agree  
 1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

***Pastor's Suggested Daily Bible Reading...***

Monday	August 27	Ephesians 3
Tuesday	August 28	Ephesians 4
Wednesday	August 29	Ephesians 5
Thursday	August 30	Ephesians 6
Friday	August 31	Philippians 1
Saturday	September 1	Psalms 102
Sunday	September 2	Psalms 103