

the good life

CONVERSATION GUIDE

Week 3 (Chapter 5)

Happy Are the Hungry and Thirsty

There is no denying the hurt, injustice, and sin that is in our world. As believers, this sad reality should break our hearts because it breaks God's heart. We hunger and thirst for goodness, healing, and justice. First, we acquire goodness by God imparting His righteousness to us. Then we become happy by joining Jesus in His mission to heal the hurt and injustice of our world. In this chapter, Pastor Derwin shared several examples of people who saw hurt in the world and decided to do something about it. The early Christians were known for running towards pain instead of away from it. For example, the early church embodied Jesus' practice of caring for the whole person. From the chapter, "May those who disagree with our beliefs see our desire to display the love for Christ through the healing of hurts, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and sacrificing ourselves in the cause of justice." Amen.

Create a meaningful conversation. Feel free to adjust the questions as needed.

- ◆ Read **2 Corinthians 5:21**. God joins us in our brokenness and even sent Jesus to bring justice once and for all by bearing the injustice of the world. What does it say that we receive in the process? What does that mean to you?
- ◆ Read **Luke 9:23-25**. How can we join God in His mission to bring redemption to earth? Think big picture, and then think about your own life and sphere of influence.
- ◆ In this chapter and the sermon, Pastor Derwin highlights the story of Manny Ohonme. What impacted you from his story? Read **Isaiah 1:17** and **James 1:27**. Recall a time someone met a need of yours. How did that impact you?
- ◆ Pastor Derwin also shared the story of Pat and Robert Vinroot and how they have ministered to those in the prison system. Read **Hebrews 13:3**. Sometimes we view those in prison as undeserving of grace or care. What does this verse say? Share your thoughts on caring for those who may not "deserve" it according to society. Read this excerpt from the chapter, "God will take unrighteous people and make them righteous through the blood of Christ, so they can express his righteousness."
- ◆ Read **Luke 4:18-19**. Jesus is in the synagogue reading from the scroll of Isaiah. When he finishes reading the verses he sits down and declares that He is the one who has come to fulfill what is written. How is God calling you to partner with Him in fulfilling what is written?

Soul-tattoo: Happy are those who live Upward, Inward, Outward.