

Simply Christian: The Thirst for Spirituality

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Our argument in this series is that Christianity satisfies every human's innate longings. This week I'm tackling the thirst for spirituality.

When the Bible describes an extreme longing for God and for God's presence, the Bible uses the image of thirst

As a deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? (Psalm 42:1-2)

Every person, every one of us, all the time, with virtually every beat of our heart, is praying Psalm 42:1-2.

Everyone on earth has a restless heart. We have been created for God. Or as the great mathematician and philosopher Pascal, said, "Everyone on earth has a God-shaped vacuum inside, a hole that can only be satisfied by God."

No individual has within them the fountain that will satisfy this thirst, this restlessness, this hunger that was put in us by our Creator.

We can't satisfy our own heart's hunger. Our spiritual emptiness cannot be satisfied by things.

The thirst in the soul can only be met by a person, and that person must be an infinite person. He must be a sufficient person. He must be a fountain that never runs dry.

Because God is our real need, becoming aware of your thirst is a good thing.

Most people meet Christ during times of failure, frustration, emptiness, and thirst.

When your life is at rock bottom, you can discover that Jesus is real for you, that Jesus really does quench the thirst of your soul.

Faith is all about becoming conscious of your thirst for God and then running to him with your thirst.

True worship arises out of our thirst for God.

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. My heart says of you, "Seek his face." Your face, Lord, I will seek. (Psalm 27)

O God, you are my God. Earnestly I seek you. My soul thirsts for you. My body longs for you in a dry and weary land where there is no water. I've seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. (Psalm 63)

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty? My soul yearns even faints for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. (Psalm 84)

The Christian life is so much more than accepting Jesus and be satisfied with that. Worship, real worship, springs from a desperation for more of God.

The problem in our lives is not that we want too much out of life. It's that we are satisfied with so little.

To drink you have to come to Jesus. The streams of God are channeled through Jesus.

Recommended Books

Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense
by N.T. Wright

Desiring God: Meditations of a Christian Hedonist
by John Piper