

sponse to your lovely Lord's longing love for you.

*“For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness. Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD. Seek the LORD and His strength; seek his face evermore. The young lions lack and suffer hunger; but those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing. I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. O God, You are my God; early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land, where there is no water. As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?”*

Selections from the Psalms

The answer to this question, When shall I come and appear before God? Any time I will! Yet we take such sparse advantage of this wonderful privilege of appearing before the omnipotent God of all the universe. What fools we mortals are.

This God of love promises us: You will seek Me and find Me, when you search

for Me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:13). His perfectly spotless Son, our Savior and our God, often found it wise to retire from the pressing crowd. In the mountain or place apart, He would hold sacred conversations with His Father.

Our quick gimme prayers grieve the God of love who longs to fellowship with us in the intimacy of exchanged love. The psalmist king was a man after God's own heart just because nothing was, or ever could be for long, as important as his intimacy with God. He said:

*“One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple.”*

Psalm 27:4

Oh, may we seek Him so. May He become adorable to us. May His beauty draw us to Himself in the longing of love so nothing else but He can fill our growing hunger for Himself.

*Write to us and request more copies to share.*

*Transformed Living Messages by Pastor Marr*  
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By: Pastor Ron Marr

*“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness; for they shall be filled.”*

Matthew 5:6

*“Because you say, I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing, and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.”*

Revelation 3:17

May we become genuinely needy in our hearts and spirits, and may this neediness lead us straight to the source of supply, our almighty God. May we be humbled to acknowledge our need of the Lord alone, our hope, our life, our all. May we invite Him to produce in us a spirit that is truly dependent, reliant on Him for all we need. May our hearts be open to receive His gifts of love, especially Himself.

**Oh, To Be Hungry**

## NONE BUT THE HUNGRY HEART

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How pathetic is that picture of our lovely Lord as He stands outside the closed door of His church, meekly knocking for admittance. This is the Creator of all the universe who, loving and lowly, sacrificed Himself to redeem us at such awesome cost. Outside the church door, he calls to those within who haven't eaten so much of this world's husks that they have no hunger left for Him:

*“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with me.”*

Revelation 3:20

Quick fix, big thrill, power hungry Christianity has been in vogue. God's people have preferred showmanship to genuine spiritual power, instant gratification to the slow growing fruit of the Spirit. Look around you at the results.

The fruit of the Spirit grows with exposure to the sunlight of God's love and to the rain of divinely permitted trials. As we spend time in communion with Him in humility of spirit and allow Him to use trials and tribulations to turn us sweetly to Him from the still present sin and self, his fruit in us matures.

### Hungering for Him

Within us is a holy hunger for our gracious, wonderful God. This hunger was placed there by the Spirit when He came to dwell in our spirits when we first received Christ as our Savior. But, most of us haven't been in the habit of adequately feeding that hunger for Him. Many of us have been starving our spiritual longings after the Lord.

Let me ask you: how much of your praying is for the things of this life and how much for the next? Do you ever take time just to love, worship, and adore your lovely Lord? Do you take time to see Him as He is in all His wonder and glory, in all His perfection and beauty, in all His grace and mercy, in all His kindness and love? Do you take time to meditate on His magnificent perfection?

I don't blame folks too much for their wrong praying. You see, if you look around in the Lord's church, it's hard to find anyone who sets an example. To learn without good models to copy is very difficult.

### Who, Me?

Let me challenge you, then, to become an example for others to follow. Who, me? you yelp. Yes, you! No matter how unspiritual, how much of a failure you feel. In

fact, just because you feel so unspiritual, such a failure, you qualify. Others need to learn from just such a model as you who can admit to being needy.

Jesus said in the great Sermon on the Mount that blessed are the poor in spirit, the mourners, the meek, the hungry, the thirsty. You qualify only as you realize something of just how poor, how mournful, how hungry, and how thirsty you really are. So take in hand the little sense of neediness you have, thank God in your heart that He has given you even that little bit, and go to Him.

As you look to Him, little by little He will increase that small sense of neediness. At length you may come even to glory in the very neediness that once frightened you so. Ultimately you may see yourself in Him, resting and remaining there, content for Him in you to satisfy all your needs.

### An Appetizer

Now, before I begin to lead you into the way this can come about, let me whet your appetite a little. Listen to David, that sweet singer of Israel, a man after God's own heart. Let his words sink deep into your heart. Let them begin to induce in you a perhaps unfamiliar re-