
Date: August 27, 2017

Sermon Title: The Focus of the Fulfilled

Speaker: Richard Smith

Scripture text(s): Matthew 5:6

- 1) Richard pointed out that "Righteousness is handed to you by God, not gained by you because of successful obedience throughout your life." What is your motivation concerning the righteousness of God? In what ways do you chase after righteousness through your own striving?
 - 2) Discuss the difference between the Pharisees' righteousness and Christ's righteousness.
 - 3) What do you fill yourself up with so that you are not hungry for the Word of God?
 - 4) Richard said that the Beatitudes are a portrait of Christ. Have you thought of that before? If so, how does this affect your actions? If not, how will this picture translate into actions?
 - 5) How will you fight to make the Word of God a priority?
 - 6) Richard reminded us that righteousness is revealed to us by faith and that trust, rest, and praying strengthens us. In what ways does this characterize your life? How can trusting, resting, and praying become a lifestyle for you?
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Group Prayer Time:

Have 1 – 2 people in your group pray through each part of the A.C.T.S. prayer acronym. Allow people to respond to the questions before the person prays.

1. **Adoration** – How is God's character reflected in this week's passage? Let that revelation lead you to worship and adore God.
2. **Confess** – The Word of God exposes and uncovers sin. Respond to that conviction by agreeing with what God has said about your sin.
3. **Thanksgiving** – Where do you see God working? Thank God for his faithfulness in your life and the lives of others.
4. **Supplication** – God's Word helps us understand his purposes and plans. Ask God to give you the desires of his heart as you pray for your needs and the needs of others.

Pray for Missions:

This week in your group prayer time, have someone pray for this missions effort. Different missions will be highlighted every week.

- **Local Missions** – Sidewalk Hope (truck ministry)...Chip Walters and the Sidewalk Hope team provides hope for children living in adverse conditions in Spartanburg, SC. Whatever the circumstances (poverty, abuse, violence, hunger, or hopelessness) we want to see children's lives impacted through the life-changing love of Jesus Christ. By meeting children where they are, personally investing in their lives and presenting the Gospel in a fun, accessible way, we believe we can build long-term relationships that lead to a brighter future and better lives for the children in our city. <http://sidewalkhope.org>