

“WHAT DO YOU WANT?”

2 Kings 2:9-10

Our story shows the power of being spiritually hungry.

I. THE HUNGER FACTOR

A. The great question of life **V9** *What can I do or you...what do you want? Desire: Deep seated craving/longing/hunger*

1. Hunger is a picture of what we really want/we truly value in life
 - a. *What dominates your thoughts/conversation/time energies?*
2. Life is determined by hunger – our desires
 - a. *Whatever you are hungry for will dominate your life: Athletes sacrifice for Olympics/sports*
3. Elijah is making him think/look inside: *What do I want? What do I want more than anything else?*
 - a. *Have you thought about what you want in life?*
4. Elisha has a holy hunger: **V9** *Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me*
 - a. *If God has a plan for my life: I want His plan – and I want to be effective at it!*

B. The starting point of ministry (after calling) is hunger/desire

1. **1 Timothy 3:1** *If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desires a good work.*
 - a. *Reach out after/long for/covet after*
 - b. *Gifts: 1 Cor 12:31 Earnestly desire/covet the best gifts*
2. God reserves His best for the hungry: What do you want? **YES! God did it for him**
 - a. *Me as disciple: Pastor Mitchell asked a bunch of disciples to write him a letter and put down 1. What we felt God wanted us to do 2. what we wanted to do 3. What were we willing to do to see that accomplished in our lives?*

II. MISSING HUNGER

A. The problem is that many men do not have a hunger for the things of God

1. It can be missing b/c we have never truly thought about it
 - a. *We drift through life/reacting to life*
2. It can be missing b/c we love other things: **Proverbs 27:7** *When you are full, not even honey tastes good...*
 - a. *Anthony: I love making money more than I love my calling...it doesn't last*
 - b. *It's hard to give yourself consistently over time if you don't have hunger*

B. Then many men had hunger at one time – but they lost it

1. Life has a way of taking away hunger
 - a. **Mark 4:18-19** *Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.* Speaking of being distracted by the needs/cares of life
2. We can lose hunger when we fail to fuel it: *We are leaky vessels! Desire drains away*
 - a. *We fail to take actions that fuel/fail to pray -seek it/fail to read – be inspired/talk to others - inspire*
3. Sin damages hunger for good things: *Like burning your mouth/something hot – nothing tastes good*
 - a. **Revelation 2:4** *Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love.*

III. GAINING HUNGER

A. Q: How do we gain hunger – or get hunger back if we've lost it?

1. **We may need to repent:** *Lack of hunger is not ok with God! Spew you out of my mouth!*
 - a. *Repent for not thinking/repent of idols – other loves/repent of sin*
2. **We need to ask God to give us hunger:** **V9** *what can I do for you...?*
 - a. *God will give us what we ask! Jesus said you can ask God for anything!*
 1. *Practical: God, I don't have spiritual hunger or I lost it; Give me hunger! Make me hungry!*
3. **We need to fuel hunger:**
 - a. *God's word: The area we need*
 - b. *Books that inspire*
 - c. *People that help stir us*
 1. **Proverbs 27:17** *As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.*

B. Elijah says hunger being fulfilled is connected to action: **V10** *if you see me when I go...*

1. We have to take actions in line with our hunger – or projected hunger
 - a. *What are you hungry for? What actions line up with that hunger?*
2. Whenever you obey – or take actions in line with hunger – God releases something supernatural
 - a. **Matthew 13:12** *For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.*
 1. *AC: I get stirred/doesn't last. What do I do? Ask God to give you a love for His will greater than making money. God did – and he changed from that time on.*