

The Hunger

14 January 2018 | Greg Haswell

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- Stirring like an awakening in my soul— yearning to know God
- After months of being drawn to Him when I prayed my prayer asking forgiveness and surrendering my life to Jesus - all I knew and all I prayed was please use my life
- And so began The hunger

- The deep longing to know Jesus and to for my life to be useful to Him in some way
- Like an ache in my marrow - like a constant thirst - a rhythmic hunger that is a gift constantly reminding me of my life's purpose
- everyone who has been born of God knows what I'm talking about

- When the One who created you brought you into the new birth - born and born again, created and recreated in Christ - He started a hunger - He unveiled an inner testimony - a yearning from the Spirit of Truth
- His Spirit constantly whispers to your Spirit - this is who you are, for this you were born - welcome to the hunger

- In my case I yearned for ministry - yearning to build up the bride of Christ - like a lust in my bones - it waxes and wanes but never leaves
- The constancy and accuracy of Holy Spirit's inner testimony - this is who I made you to be
- As the years passed and it came time for career choice for me I went away to seek the Lord

- I was clear about wanting to be in ministry - the hunger in me was steadfast but I wanted to hear a call
- Scriptures on the wall of the Bible college - speak to me through this guy preaching - I heard a specific call but no less noteworthy is the constant longing for the bride

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

- Everyone born of God - will know the hunger - the inner yearning for what He has called you to
- The only way to satisfy that hunger is to do what you are called to do - only here will you find satisfaction
- Exercise yourselves with diligence - fear and trembling - working out (work on to the finish)

- But it is right here that we in the western church must be careful
- We are conditioned to a very insular and personalized perspective - its my salvation, my calling, my role as though we are complete entities who do not fit together

- Our design and calling - therefore the hunger in us only makes sense when it is fitted into a body - like the members of a body - they need context to be viable and valuable
- Remove a vital organ - it is valuable for a transplant patient but left outside the body its purpose is forfeit

- This is what I know about you - you have a call of God on your life - you have the hunger - I know this because Holy Spirit is perfectly faithful and constantly testifies to your Spirit about this
- You have a God given calling to serve in your place

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you:
Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought,
but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in
accordance with the faith God has distributed to
each of you. 4 For just as each of us has one body
with many members, and these members do not all

ROMANS 12:3-4

have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then

ROMANS 12:5-7

teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. 9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

ROMANS 12:8-10

- Once again - a vital organ - outside the body its forfeits purpose
- Think soberly about yourself
- You're part of one body but with different functions
 - therefore each members belongs to the others
- Be diligent in the use of your gifts
- Be sincere in love

- Be discerning in what you embrace (hate evil, cling to good)
- be devoted to one another in love
- honor others above yourself

- you have the call of God on your life- you have the hunger
- Stir it up - go with it - be unashamed -
- Acts tells us that there once was a church full of people so devoted to Jesus and one another that they shared their lives and pooled their resources

- They demonstrated such radical love for one another that emperors, armies and religious leaders couldn't slow them down
- They each gave of their gifting to the extent that much grace was on them all

- They loved and laughed and struggled together and lived such ferociously dedicated lives that even those who were not of the community of faith came to love and respect them
- There was once a group of people who gave themselves to the hunger of the call of God and surrendered to His leading

- They changed their world and transformed their generation because they chose to follow God's call
- They weren't more gifted, educated, resourced or privileged but they showed us that this is not theory - it can be lived
- There was once a generation so passionate as believers that they gave all to follow and it was worth it a hundred times over

- We have given our lives to the King and His bride and will continue to do so - we celebrate the hunger in us - it is a testimony that we yet have life and purpose on this earth
- Stir yourself to the hunger within you - you yet have purpose and life to live - a body to fit into - places to serve

- If you have been hurt by members of the body or have grown tired in service - or had a fight with a leader - or been misunderstood - I'd like to pray for you - for healing, apologize on behalf of the body, the leader, lay down that burden, give it to the Lord, let healing wash you clean, let love flow again
- Love again, serve once more, give freely - Greg you don't understand -

- If we don't find the healing to try again - we act like antibodies attacking those God has transplanted into our body - we reject and attack - we need immunosuppressants only Holy Spirit can give
- Shed your love into our hearts lord

- There was once a group of believers so given over to the hunger within - that they served their generation and the generations since with proof of what could be done
- We owe our generation a similar testimony - you owe your family the same model -mostly you owe your king the honor of agreement and submission to the hunger He placed within

- Joe and Mary Visitor and their family
- Ordinary people - marriage, children, financial press, unrealistic boss, extended family weirdness, but they have a desire to know God
- It matters that we grew and welcome them - it matters that we are kind and friendly, it makes a difference when we treat their children well and make them comfortable

- Its good for them to find seats and that there are systems and people they can ask about things
- Its helpful when we explain things that are going on and introduce ourselves to them
- When the worship is authentic, with good musicianship and great sound mix - when its led well and they find themselves drawn in

- Its helpful if the sermon speaks to where they are and if there is a considerate ministry team who will pray for them if they are courageous enough to ask strangers for prayer
- It will be great when their children loved children's church and their teens loved our student ministry
- Mostly - if they encountered God's love in many different people - their lives - their destinies - their sternities- are likely to be changed

- So which is more important?
- Greeters, ushers, children church workers, youth leaders, worship team, production team, service hosts or sermon?
- Bring your gift and submit it to this body and for all eternity you will be glad you did.

Timothy Dwight

Grandson of Jonathan Edwards

He served as a chaplain under George Washington
during the Revolutionary War

Became president of Yale University

1 I love Thy church, O Lord,
2 The place of Thine abode,
3 The church our blest Redeemer saved
4 With His own precious blood.
5 I love Thy church, O God;
6 Her walls before Thee stand,
7 Dear as the apple of Thine eye,
8 And graven on Thy hand.
9 For her my tears shall fall;
10 For her my prayers ascend;
11 To her my cares and toils be giv'n,
12 Till toils and cares shall end.

1 Beyond my highest joy
2 I prize her heav'nly ways,
3 Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
4 Her hymns of love and praise.
5 Sure as Thy truth shall last,
6 To Zion shall be giv'n
7 The brightest glories earth can yield,
8 And brighter bliss of Heav'n.



Build Together.

2018 Teams

GUEST SERVICES

GREETERS

This team consists of people who act as the first impression to our visitors and guests. They are looking for friendly, happy, energetic people to help welcome guests into the Northlands community with a smile, encouragement, and a personal touch so that hearts are open to the gospel message. Greeters are distributed into Ushers, Hosts, and Door Holders.

HOSPITALITY

Our hospitality team ensures members and guests are welcomed with the utmost intentionality each week. Members of this team ensure that every detail from hot coffee in the Connection Cafe to attentive hosting in the Hall of Champions is executed with excellence. They help make Northlands home to our community.

CHILDREN'S CHECK-IN

The Children's Check-In team creates a safe and friendly atmosphere that ensures children can efficiently be checked in each Sunday. This team allows both parents and children to feel comfortable and at ease throughout the service.

COMMUNION & OFFERING

The Communion & Offering team strives to make in-service experiences as simple and easy as possible.

PARKING

Greeting starts when the guests first arrive. The parking team helps direct our guests and members to the right starting point for their Sunday morning.

MAINTENANCE

This team works diligently behind the scenes to support our spirit of excellence by maintaining the physical building where our meetings are held. They watch over the maintenance of the building and coordinate efforts where specialized professionals are needed.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LITTLE LAMBS INFANTS & TODDLERS

Northlands believes in ministering to the needs of every age group, including our littlest members. Little Lambs is designed for infants up to 23 months. Our qualified volunteers create a positive church experience that introduces infants to a love for Jesus early on. While parents enjoy the Sunday service, they can rest assured that their babies are receiving personal care in a safe and nurturing environment.

J.A.M. CLUB AGES 2-5

Preschoolers love to learn and play, which is why the J.A.M Club (Jesus And Me Club) team creates an exciting and interactive environment where preschoolers can learn about Jesus. They provide short illustrated Bible lessons reinforced with age appropriate crafts, games, and activities.

RIVERZONE GRADES K-5TH

RiverZone is a high-energy Sunday morning service specifically designed for elementary students. The RiverZone team is passionate about developing a love for God's power and presence in the hearts of Kindergarteners through 5th Graders. Through engaging worship, dynamic teaching, and fun-filled activities, RiverZone students discover the adventure of God's Word for their everyday life experiences.

STUDENT MINISTRY

IGNITE GRADES 6-12

Ignite is the student ministry of Northlands Church. Believing that students are entrusted with great destinies, they equip them to walk in Grace and the Holy Spirit so that they may live into the calls and ministry God has given them. This team focuses on empowering young people. They act as mentors, prayer warriors, worship leaders, role models and shepherds helping to prepare students for the life of ministry that lies just ahead in their future.

MINISTRY

WORSHIP

The worship team at Northlands is a group of gifted musicians, creative songwriters, and passionate worship leaders. This team leads worship during Sunday morning services and special events. Northlands worship cultivates an atmosphere of transformation and encountering God's spectacular presence.

PROPHETIC / PRAYER MINISTRY

This team is a group of trained volunteers who pray and minister during or after Sunday services and special events. They are prompted by words of knowledge from the Holy Spirit, invitations that emerge during a service gathering, or specific requests of individuals in need.

EVENTS

Church-wide events are creatively planned and energetically hosted by this team who places priority on valuing people and serving with excellence. This team serves as a resource for ministry Grace Teams that are planning an event in the areas of set up/teardown, décor, refreshments, and logistics as needed.

PROJECTS

The Projects team is available to support various church ministries - assessing the need, developing a plan, and completing the project. Team members' skills and interests might be: building, assembling, decorating, installing, and painting.

OUTREACH

GRACE FOOD PANTRY

The Grace Food Pantry provides food for individuals and families in need. This outreach is facilitated in a way that fosters the dignity of the person receiving food and provides an opportunity for prayer ministry.

TREASURE SEEKERS OUTREACH

This team builds relationships with the children and families of a neighboring apartment complex. On the second Saturday of each month, they bring church out into the community by sharing the gospel through games and love.

CARE COMMUNITY

The Care Community team serves foster families both in our church and in the community by taking meals to, praying for, and serving them in countless ways. In doing so, they make a significant and eternal difference in the lives of vulnerable children. A short training is required before being a part of this Grace Team.

CAREPORTAL

CarePortal is the connection of the Government, through Child Welfare workers, with the Church. The CarePortal team receives information on the needs of hurting children and families in our community and has the real-time opportunity to respond. The initial commitment is simply to receive an email that shares a need.

PRODUCTION

AUDIO

Our audio team is responsible for creating an immersive and distraction-free audio environment for our services. By employing industry standard sound reinforcement systems and skilled engineers, they create a safe and enjoyable audio environment for our members and guests.

BROADCAST

The broadcast team is responsible for running and operating all auditorium filming equipment. This team produces and manages the live stream of services on Northlands.tv.

PROJECTION

The projection team operates the equipment necessary to display live video and graphics that are needed to enhance the service. They focus on enhancing and delivering the worship and the message, creating visual appeal, focusing attention, and supporting the communicator.

WEB

This team manages and develops the Northlands websites by providing an intuitive user experience and delivering quality content that inspires, engages, and equips our online audience.

We're excited to build together in 2018! Please fill out your information and check the team(s) you would like to join. Your team leader will connect with you about next steps.

Blue teams serve weekly. Green teams serve during various occasions throughout the year.

NAME _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

GUEST SERVICES

- GREETERS
- HOSPITALITY
- CHILDREN'S CHECK-IN
- COMMUNION & OFFERING
- PARKING
- MAINTENANCE

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- LITTLE LAMBS
- J.A.M. CLUB
- RIVERZONE

STUDENT MINISTRY

- IGNITE

MINISTRY

- WORSHIP
- PROPHETIC / PRAYER MINISTRY
- EVENTS
- PROJECTS

OUTREACH

- GRACE FOOD PANTRY
- TREASURE SEEKERS
- CARE COMMUNITY
- CAREPORTAL

PRODUCTION

- AUDIO
- BROADCAST
- PROJECTION
- WEB

Then let us no longer judge one another, but rather resolve never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.

ROMANS 14:13

Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak.

1 CORINTHIANS 8:9

We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:3

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:11-13

14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:14-16

16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

EPHESIANS 4:14-16

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

15 Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be?

1 CORINTHIANS 12:15-17

If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. 19 If they were all one part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"

1 CORINTHIANS 12:17-20

22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there

should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it

1 CORINTHIANS 12:26-27