

Speaker Passes Out and Students Start Tweeting

Here's a bizarre story. Bill Nye, also known as "The Science Guy," passed out in the middle of a lecture at USC. Some eyewitnesses reported that, at least initially, no one came to his help; instead, some or perhaps many students started feverishly texting and updating their Twitter statuses. The rest of the article gives other examples of "digital passivity." Although some of the students dispute parts of the story, it still raises a disturbing question: are we so media-absorbed that we can't respond to real people right in front of us?

Those students were so obsessed with posting the latest and funniest tweet,
that they just didn't care about the professor!

And I share that story,
because I reckon something more serious is at stake,
that the story let's us in on...

Our hunger for God does not exist anymore because we are full of ourselves.

You know that feeling when you're starving...
Stomach's churning,
Your head is light
Have no energy
All you can think about is eating that delicious whatever....
You know the feeling right...

Do you ever feel that way toward God?

Have you ever thought... if God doesn't fill me with his presence now, I'm not going to make it?

Have you ever thought... if God doesn't show up now and meet my desire for him, I can't go on?

Have you ever been so hungry for God, that everything else seems empty, worthless, pathetic, a waste of time?

1708: Sprottau (Czech -Polish Border)

Religion was outlawed...

On kid was stirred,

called her friends

Protestants in Field (Prayer, Hymn Singing, Confession, Weeping)

Escaping the house through a window

Catholics and Protestants together

Hangman sent to disperse them

Adults gathered around

That started a revolution that changed the lives of 100,000s of people

Wouldn't it be **incredible** to be a group of young people who in **300 years time** people were **still talking** about,
because we were so **hungry for God**
that we would **stop at nothing** to know him,
and do **what** he wants.

What if the most important thing to us was a hunger for God?

There is a verse that's going to lead us through this term...

It's Psalm 107:9

Ps 107:9 God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

This verse is awesome...

because it assumes something!

The **something that it assumes** is that there is an **emptiness!**

Being **thirsty and hungry**, both mean that something **isn't there**, right...

No **food** and no **drink** present,
therefore we **feel hungry and thirsty**.

Now we all know what it means to feel **hungry** and **thirsty** right!

So **apply** that to yourself **spiritually**!

So say this is you....

BUCKET, large glass, shovel

And we fill ourselves up with crap...

Movies we watch,
music we listen to,
things we **tell ourselves**,
porn on the computer,
cheating your **friends like crap**,

filling your **heads**

and **hearts**

and **spirits** with so much **stuff**,

that even though God wants **a look in**,

he has **no chance!**

You see if we exist like this...

totally full....

Then this verse cannot be true for us.

Because if we are not hungry or thirsty,

God cannot satisfy us!

Because God will satisfy the thirsty, and fill the hungry...

We need to **become empty**,

so we can be thirsty and hungry for him...

This verse sits in a Psalm,

and the Psalm has 6 verses in it...

And the first verse,

which ends with these words sounds like this...

**1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.**

2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—

8 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, **9** for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

You see the Psalmist writes this to say...

Life is going to be **horrible!**
 But **God** is on the **warpath to rescue** you!
 Whether your **lost**,
 cynical,
 stuck in sin,
 hungry,
 thirsty,
 under **attack**...

God is coming for you!

And that should make you hungry for God!

Knowing that,
 should **make you thirsty** to see what he will do!

Now when it **comes to you and me**...

We find it hard for **God's words** to find **power**,
 because we **don't have that hunger**...

We're too fat!

Fat of too much **Bible teaching** and not enough **bible doing!**

Fat of too much **entertainment** and not enough **service!**

Fat of too much stuff we **consume** and not **generosity** we release!

Fat of too much **head conversation** and not **heart conversation!**

We're too full,

to be hungry for God!

We're too drenched

to be thirsty for his Spirit!

And this has to change,

if we want to really know God.

British style writer Neil Boorman has decided to burn every branded thing in his possession. **"I am addicted to brands,"** he confessed in a magazine article:

“From an early age, I have been taught that to be accepted, to be loveable, to be cool, one must have the right stuff. At junior school, I tried to make friends with the popular kids, only to be ridiculed for the lack of stripes on my trainers. Once I had nagged my parents to the point of buying me the shoes, I was duly accepted at school, and I became much happier as a result. As long as my parents continued to buy me the brands, life was more fun. Now, at the age of 31, I still behave according to playground law.”

Boorman finally realized that the happiness found in his possessions is hollow and short-lived, leaving him with a "**continual, dull ache**." So he's taking drastic action and turning to a life of simplicity. He summarizes:

“The manner in which we spend our money defines who we are.... In this secular society of ours, where family and church once gave us a sense of belonging, identity, and meaning, there is now Apple, Mercedes, and Coke.... So, this is why I am burning all my stuff. To find real happiness, to find the real me.”

Just think for a second...

What would you be putting on that **fire**?

What would you be **getting rid** of?

What would you have to **let go** of?

What is it that's **taking up space** that God might want to be in?

Ps 107:9 because... God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

There's this really **cool idea** in Ephesians...

That says all this in a **slightly different** way...

Ephesians 4:28 says:

28 He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

Why would someone steal?

Because they **want something** that's **not** theirs.

Because they have an **appetite** for it yeah...

I stole a boat once....

Which I'll tell you a bout another time

I had an appetite for adventure...

You see it's not the appetite that's wrong...

But how we fill our appetite can be wrong!

And an appetite is **part of your hunger**....

So it's **good to be hungry**,

But what you **fill yourself** with can be the **problem**.

So Paul when he writes this letter to this Church in Ephesus,
says...

Instead of stealing to fill your appetite, do something productive!

Keep your appetite but satisfy it in a different way!

Check out this youtube clip...

YOUTUBE CLIP

The guy had an **appetite** for a few things...

But he chose to **satisfy** his appetite to do **good**.

He was **hungry to do good**...

He **chose** it,

And **everyone won!**

So the question for you guys tonight is,

Do you try and **feed your spiritual hunger** or do you let God feed you?

Do you let things that are **destructive quench your thirst**, or do you seek for God to?

Do you **satisfy your own appetites** with stuff that will result in no room for God, or will you **let God totally satisfy** you?

Because if we take this seriously,

we can be part of changing the world!

So how do we get hungry for God?

We want this whole thing...

to be **more than a one off talk** and **listen deal** for you guys!

We want this term,

to be the most **significant period** of your life,
because you **not only met God**,
but were **filled to overflowing** by him.

We want this term to be the term where **God so powerfully dwells** in you and uses you that **people will look back** to this season at youthstreet, and **wish they had been** here too!

And so we have a totally radical idea for you!

The **Bible talks** about this thing called **fasting**.

they did where they **refused to eat** so that their **desire** for the **physical** food,
could then be **transformed** into more of a **spiritual desire for God**.

Basically they **made more room in their lives** for God, by giving up something that was important to them.

So we want you, this week, to think about what you might **fast**.
What you might **take out of your life** so that more space is created for God to be present.

We want you to do something that **creates in you an appetite** for something that you **crave**...
so that **God can fill** you in it!

So **between** this **week** and **next week**, we want you guys to discuss what you might give up for **6 weeks!**

It might be:

Fb
 Junk food
 Chocolate
 Clothes shopping
 Gaming
 Tv
 Phone

For me it's...
 Going to be all forms of junk food.
 Soft drink, fast food, lollies, chips, chocolate...

And each of your leaders have spent the week wrestling with this
 and have come to the decision of what they will fast.

Next week Elevation are holding Emerge...
 And you can go to that if you wish...
 But as YS we're not going to go, because we feel for us to fulfill the
 thing God is calling us to we need to be together,
 So next week we want you to fill in a card your leader will give
 you...
 And we're going to start our fast next Friday night.

Because we know this of God...
 God wants us to feast on him,
 to embrace him,
 to be fed by him,
 to have our inner nunger filled by him,
 to have our spiritual thirst quenched by him,
 To have our appetites for **love** for **significance**, for **acceptance**,
 for **happiness** to be satisfied in God!

And to do that we need to remove some of the stuff that is filling us
 so a hunger is created for God to fill.