



Sermon Outline
October 18, 2015
Pastor Bryan Myers

Awakening to Longing

Luke 15:11-16

We all have a longing for _____.

Genesis 2:18a - The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone."

We all have a longing for _____.

Jeremiah 1:5a MSG - Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you.

We all have a longing for _____.

Meaning = answers to the big "Why?" questions.

Why God, if you are so good, did you allow this to happen?

Why am I here? What's the point of life?

Why am I in so much pain?

**When suffering causes you to
_____ God, think on this:**

- There's a reason why suffering feels not just painful, but also wrong and unfair.
- There's a reason why you feel like your life and the world aren't the way they are supposed to be.

Thinking and feeling you want something more is what you _____ feel.

** Just remember, that not everything you desire is good for you. But longing for a love that will truly last, a purpose for living, and your need to make sense out of the hard things in life are all longings that come from God.*

Important life questions:

- Where will I go to satisfy these God-given longings?
- Will that draw me close to God or away from Him?

Awakening to these longings and the truth of where they can be satisfied marks the _____ of our journey back to God.

Love:

- **Romans 5:8** - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- **1 John 4:16a** - And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.

Purpose:

- **Psalms 139:15b-16** - ...when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.
- **Ephesians 2:10** - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Meaning:

- **Romans 8:18** - I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.
- **Revelation 21:3b-4** - They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Take the Prayer Challenge: For the next 30 days honestly and earnestly pray this prayer daily:
God if you are real, make yourself real to me.