

Family Fellowship 2 of 4

0507

Study Given by W. D. Frazee

Are you hungry? Some are hungry and know it. Some are hungry and don't know it. I want to talk this morning about hidden hunger, or what youth really want.

That expression "hidden hunger" I get from a nutritional problem. All over the country, there are children and young people who seem to have a special craving for sweets: candy, ice cream, soda pop, and on and on and on. They never can get enough—there might be some here this morning. Do you know in some cases what the problem is? I'll tell you. They are hungry. Their bodies lack the minerals and vitamins that are found in natural foods.

The youngster is hungry, but he doesn't know what he's hungry for. He thinks he's hungry for more candy. What he's really hungry for are the minerals and vitamins that God put in the apples and oranges and bananas, the dates and raisins and figs, and the pears and the prunes and all the other delicious fruits. That's what he's really hungry for are those minerals and vitamins. And the body is crying out for those nutritional needs, but the youngster doesn't know it—he thinks more candy, more candy. The problem is that no amount of candy will satisfy the need, will satisfy the hunger.

Now, in America, and in other parts of the world, we are seeing a restlessness which manifests itself in riots on the campuses of the great universities, in violence in the streets, and in mutterings and grumblings everywhere. What is it that youth are trying to say? It's this hidden hunger that I want to talk with you about this morning. I'm glad there're so many young people here; I'm glad there're a lot of parents too, because the problem is with all of us—as you will see.

Our text is Jeremiah 6:16. There is a way, my dear young friends, to be satisfied and happy. There is a way to have the restlessness which finds expression in riot and revolution. To find the answer to that, there's a way—God gives it to us here:

"Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Harken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts,

because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it” Jeremiah 6:16–19.

The restlessness, the riots, the revolution all these are fruits of turning away from God’s holy law. This is the cause of the hidden hunger. If you’d like to do some side reading on it, read the chapter on “The Impending Conflict” in *Great Controversy*. The young people today are not responsible for the seed that was sown several generations ago. Read about it there in *Great Controversy*.

When the great Advent movement arose right here in New England, where we’re sitting this morning, those who heard that message were brought face to face with the fact that the judgment had begun, that God was reviewing the lives of His children preparatory to coming in the clouds of heaven. As a part of that judgment hour message the eyes of God’s people were directed through the open door to the Ark and God’s law within that sacred shrine. But as they traced down the precepts of the Decalogue, they came to that Fourth Commandment.

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work...” Exodus 20:8–9.

The light of the Holy Spirit illumined that commandment, and men and women were convicted that they should return to the keeping of God’s holy Sabbath, the seventh day from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown. But only a few would listen to that queer, strange, unusual idea. True, it was as old, as old as creation, but it had been lost sight of in the apostasy of the Dark Ages. This was a call back to the old path, back to obedience to all of God’s commandments.

Would they walk therein? Not very many. So what did they do? Popular preachers had the answer. They came up with the idea that Jesus, when He came to this world, had nailed this law to the cross that we were no longer under this law, but under grace. That meant that we didn’t need to keep the seventh-day Sabbath. Have you heard any of those ideas? But little did they realize what would be the fruit of that sowing. For several generations now, these teachings have been going on until finally, we are in the harvest time. Multitudes of people, young and old, are ready to cast aside not merely the Fourth Commandment, but the law of which it is the center and seal. This is the hidden cause of the restlessness and the lawlessness, the crime, the violence, the riots, the revolution that is mounting higher and higher. A great floodtide is threatened to sweep away all law, all government. This is what we’re up against. This is the hidden current.

Now, the good news is that you and I don’t have to be engulfed in that tide. The good news is that you and I can return to the obedience to God’s law, and therein find the security which those who have turned from God’s law have lost. The answer is in this holy law.

With this law, with obedience to this law, is bound up the peace and happiness of the universe. There is no other. Jesus died on Calvary, not to cast aside this law, but to establish it. He died not to make it possible for people to keep on breaking it. He died to make it possible for you and me to keep it.

“...sin is the transgression of the law” 1 John 3:4.

“And [He came to] save His people from their sins”
Matthew 1:21.

He was manifested to take away our sins. I’m so glad for the Gospel, the good news of salvation, from not only the guilt but the power of sin. What do you say? The Lord grant it for every one of us.

You remember that in Matthew 11:28, Jesus gave that wonderful invitation:

“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls” Matthew 11:28–29.

This is the yoke my friends, the law of God is the yoke that binds us up with God in a harness for service. I trust that everyone here has bound himself with Jesus in this yoke. This is the only way of rest. There is no other. The law of God is the key to satisfaction.

Now, I’d like to get down to specifics here this morning and notice some of these commandments, for after all there’re 10, the Sabbath is only one of them. Here is this Fifth Commandment; will you say it with me? All together:

“Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee”
Exodus 20:12.

Is this one of God’s commandments? Did He really speak that from Mount Sinai? Did He write it with His finger on the stone? Yes, He did. Is it out of date? You know there was somebody who thought they could change the Fourth Commandment from Saturday to Sunday. Did they change it as far as the practice of millions of people? Oh, yes. Have they changed it as far as the law in the Ark in Heaven? Not a bit. Which are we going to be judged by, what people around us are doing, or what the law says? What the law says.

Now what about this Fifth Commandment; the same great enemy that has tried to change the Fourth Commandment has tried to change the Fifth Commandment too. And he has already won it as far as the practice of millions of people is concerned. And I’ll tell you a secret in case you don’t know it. There’s hardly anybody today who is keeping the

Fifth Commandment, just as there's hardly anybody who is keeping the Fourth Commandment—hardly anybody.

This didn't start yesterday or the day before. You fathers and mothers, tell me, did you grow up in a home where obedience was the rule of life, or did you get your way most of the time? If you've grown up in a typical American home, all of you fathers and mothers who are here this morning that are looking after children from babies on up, all of you who are still taking care of children, if you grew up in a typical American home, you did not grow up learning the way of obedience. You got your own way. Maybe you kicked and screamed for it when you were an infant. Maybe you whined for it somewhere along the line. Maybe you grumbled, maybe you lied to get your own way. But somehow or another, you got your own way most of the time. This is why it's so difficult for you to teach the way of obedience to your own children now. You never learned it.

Now you may be an exception. If you are, thank the Lord for it. But if you are an exception, you are a rare exception. Hardly anybody in this room this morning ever learned the way of obedience, if your average; you don't know it now.

"Well," you say, "Brother Frazee, that is quite a charge." Yes, it is, and I'm making it deliberately. This is why there's so much restlessness and discontent—all ages. This is a restless generation. The only answer is to come back to the way of obedience to God and to those that God has put in positions of authority and responsibility. And—don't miss my next point—what I'm studying with you is not so much the rightness of that way of life. It is this, that this is the only way to be happy and satisfied. It is the neglect of this that is responsible for the hidden hunger. Do you know what children and young people are hungry for? They're hungry to be told what to do by somebody who knows and loves them enough to lead them in the right way.

Someone says, "I've never been hungry then." But you just didn't know it. It's the hidden hunger. The infant doesn't know what it wants when it cries for the moon or a pair of scissors. The youth of today who are clamoring for more freedom, more chance to express themselves, more chance to burn down the administration building, and sit in the president's seat, they don't know what it is that's driving them. They don't know what's the matter, they don't know what they're hungry for. God knows. He made them. And oh, that you and I as those who have heard the message of the remnant church will respond to the glorious invitation of Jesus, Come and I'll give you rest. "Take My yoke upon you, and learn of me."

There's another commandment here, the Seventh Commandment. Will you repeat that one with me?

"Thou shalt not commit adultery" Exodus 20:14.

As the Fifth Commandment outlines the relations between parents and children, and guides and guards, so the Seventh Commandment makes very clear the relationship between the husband and wife and safeguards the purity of the home. It says to the

husband, that woman that you married is the only one. Your heart is not to go out after any other woman. Your eyes are not to rove. Your hands are to convey no message contrary to that exclusive love that belongs to you and your wife—likewise, the wife with the husband.

How many of you've ever been to a wedding? I was at one just a few weeks ago. The minister asked the young man, Will you take this woman, Mary Smith, to be your wedded wife, to live with her after God's order in the holiest state of matrimony? Will you love her, honor her, and cherish her in sickness and health, in prosperity and adversity? And forsaking all others keep you only unto her, as long as you both shall live? Do you thus promise? Do you know what he said? Yes, that's what he said, "I do." You say, "Well, of course, that's what he was supposed to say."

But you know I was thinking about it friends, do you know what most young men that stand at the altar today, if they get really honest with themselves and the minister, do you know what they'd say then? They'd say, "Preacher, do you mean that you're really asking me to leave every other girl in this world and stick with this one?"

Yes, that's the question.

"Well preacher, to be real honest with you, I don't know whether I can do it or not; I've never tried. Ever since I was a youngster, I've run with this girl and that girl; first one and then another. I've put my hands on any of them who would let me. I've done this, and I've done that, and I have never kept myself single for anybody very long. And now you're asking me before God and angels, and these witnesses to stand up and say I'm going to be true to one and one only as long as I live? Preacher, that's something that's just beyond me."

Of course, nobody ever said that at a wedding, did they? No. But it would if they're being real honest. And too many of the girls that stand at the marriage alter today don't know if they can be true to one man or not. They've never tried it very long.

We're in an age of lawlessness. And the breaking of the law is not only with the fourth and Fifth Commandment, but with the Seventh Commandment. Well, that's the new freedom, the new morality? No, it's the old immorality. It's old as Sodom and Gomorrah, as old as the days before the flood. And God is going to destroy this world as He destroyed the antediluvian society, and as He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. In fact, the wife of Billy Graham said not long ago, "If the Lord doesn't come pretty soon, He's going to have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah."

This is the age to which we've come: the age of rebellion, the age of immorality, the age of Sabbath-breaking, and the age of breaking every commandment in the Decalogue. And this, I repeat, is why people are so restless and dissatisfied; why there is so much discontent, for no amount of lawbreaking can satisfy the soul. It is not only wrong to sin, it's just plain silly. It doesn't add up. It doesn't make sense. The One who made us made us according to a wonderful plan that would bring joy and satisfaction to every

obedient soul, and just as nothing but water will satisfy thirst, nothing but food will fill the hungry stomach, so nothing but obedience to the law can satisfy the heart of men and women and boys and girls. There is no other way. Oh, that we may learn the good way and find rest to our souls.

I'm going to touch something that may seem strange to somebody here, but it's Bible. If you want to find the way of rest and peace and security, don't you? Listen, in the Bible there is someone appointed by the law of God as the head of the house. Who is it? The husband, the father, he's the priest of the household. Read Ephesians 5, we were reading some from it last night, you'll see that. Ah, someone says, Brother Frazee, that's old fashioned. Yes, it is, it's very old fashioned. It's as old fashioned as the Bible and old fashioned as the law of God.

I want to tell you something, in New York City a judge there who has handled thousands of juvenile delinquents took it upon himself to make a study of the various cultures of the world, the different nations, and races to discover if he could why in some places there's much more juvenile crime than others. He came up with the answer. In nations and civilizations where the authority of the home is vested in the father, and the mother and children cooperate with the leadership of the father, he discovered that there was very little juvenile crime, very little delinquency.

We're living in an age that is famous not only for the revolt of youth but the revolt of women against male leadership. This is supposed to be the *thing* today. God knows that just as many parents have abused their authority and have been cruel to their children, so, many husbands have been brutes and dictators instead of revealing the love of God that we studied about last night. But I want to tell you something, friends, just as the answer to the cruelty of parents is not the revolt of children, so the answer to the brutality and dictatorship of husbands is not the rebellion of women—it's not the answer at all. There's only one answer to all these problems, and that is the love of God and returning to obedience to God's law.

Turn to Isaiah 3, I want you to see a picture of this time in which we live. If you want to read about modern styles of dress, you'll find it in the last part of Isaiah 3, but I won't go into that this morning. I'll just simply say that the dress of the present time, like the rest of the picture this morning, is rebellion. But now, back to Isaiah 3:

“As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths” Isaiah 3:12.

Is it making women happy to have more and more chance to do as they please? Do you know that in millions of American families today, the husband and father is working overtime, and in many cases moonlighting? What for? To keep up with the demands which the wants of the children and the wife make necessary—to keep the bills paid. Children are ruling their mothers, and the mothers are ruling the fathers. This is the age to which we've come, and it's not making people happy.

I call you this morning in the simplest terms back to the law of God, back to Heaven's way of family government, with the husband and father as the priest of the household, gathering his family about him. The mother is the queen, but the father is the king, and the children are princes and princesses. Are you a member of the royal family? Oh, that God may make it so for everyone here.

I want to read you a little statement from the book *Child Guidance*:

"In some families the wishes of the child are law. Everything he desires is given him. Everything he dislikes he is encouraged to dislike. These indulgences are supposed to make the child happy, but it is these very things that make him restless, discontented, and satisfied with nothing" *Child Guidance*, page 272.

Do you see, dear fathers and mothers, when you give the little one everything he cries for, you're getting him ready to riot in the streets, and try to take over the universities and the government? Did you ever see a little fellow down there on the floor, kicking and screaming, and father and mother, and older brother and sister, and aunt and uncle, and grandma and grandpa, all trying to think of something to give him that'll keep him still? Did you ever see it? It happens every day, and it can never succeed. These indulgences are supposed to make the child happy, but it is these very things that make him restless, discontented, and satisfied with nothing.

Now let's turn to the last page of the Old Testament—Malachi 4. Here's some good new friends, a wonderful prophecy of the way out, the way back, the way up, the way on.

"Remember ye the law of Moses My servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse" Malachi 4:4–6.

Yes, it's good news, friends. Elijah has come. He's calling parents and children together. And notice that those who won't listen to Elijah they're going to be smitten with what? A curse. It isn't that Elijah curses them. They curse themselves by not listening. The only way to avoid the curse is to listen to Elijah. And what is his message? Turning the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers.

Was there ever a time in the 6,000 years of human history when parents and children were as separated as they are this morning? We talk about the generation gap. The Devil invented that idea. But he has arranged a thousand things in the society in which we live to get the parents going in one direction and the children in another. The

father goes to work, and the children go to school, and the mother goes to a club, or she may be out working. In millions of homes, families are together as families only a little time each day and in some homes never during the week. And have you ever noticed that even in religious matters there's a growing trend to have the children and young people off here somewhere and the parents off to some other place?

I'm very thankful this morning to have the privilege of talking to all of you all together. I love to see in the house of God on the Sabbath day father and mother and children all sitting in the same pew together. This is as God would have it. This is a picture of order, family government, and family unity. And to the extent that we have strayed from this family unity, Elijah is calling us back.

Now, notice this is to begin with the parents. He is to turn the heart of the fathers to the children. My dear parents, if we are to be successful in leading our families to Canaan instead of falling together into the lake of fire, down on our knees, we must seek God for a deeper love for these boys and girls and these adolescent youth than we have ever had before. It's going to take more love today than ever before, for we have more to contend with. The forces of the enemy are strong, but love is stronger. But it'll take a lot of love, and we must get it from God, as we noted last night.

Now, children and young people, what about you? Are you going to join this restless generation in its march to rebellion, or are you going to listen to Elijah and have your hearts turned back to father and mother and the home? Are you going to in the school and the church lift your voice in revolution, thinking that's the thing, or are you going to listen to the voice from Sinai and the voice from Calvary calling you back to the good way, the way of obedience?

Jesus, you remember in Luke 15, told about a young man who was quite modern. He asks his father for his share of the inheritance before the father ever died. He wanted to live it up right now—he belonged to the “now generation.” Strange to say, the father gave him all he asked for. He got his money, his property, turned everything into cash, and off he went to a far country. He couldn't stand it at home any longer.

There in the far country, he lived it up. He had a lot of friends to help him spend his money. But the day came when his money was gone, and friends left about that time. And finally, we see him in the hog pen. He's so hungry that he's about ready to eat what the pigs were eating. And then, Jesus said, he came to himself. He woke up. Do you know what he decided to do? He decided to go home to father. Hear him there in that pigpen: I will arise and go to my father. Why, I thought you wanted to get as far away from dad as far as you could? Yes, he says, that's what I thought. But now I know that this is what I really want. I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against Heaven in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.”

You remember the reception he got. The father didn't wait for him to cross the threshold and knock at the door. He ran down the road to meet him and threw his arms around him. He covered his rags with the father's robe. Do you know why the father met

him a great way off? He was looking for him. Just as there was a hunger in that young man's heart that he didn't realize until he got into the pigpen, there was a hunger in that father's heart that the father did realize every day the boy was gone. The son needed the father, but the father needed the son. Oh, what a reunion.

Friends, young and old, you need somebody, and somebody needs you. It is only as that double need is met that your soul can find the greatest satisfaction. It is not alone by ties of flesh and blood that this need is met.

I think of Elisha with Elijah. I think of Timothy with Paul. I think of how many of the pioneers of this message trained young people working closely with them. I think of dear Stephen Haskell, who for many years had his headquarters over here at South Lancaster, and the many young people he trained in his home working with him. What I'm saying is this—you need somebody, and somebody needs you.

The way to begin it, boys and girls, is in the home, letting your father and mother mean all to you that God has planned, and you, in turn, meaning all to them that God has planned for you to mean. Obedience through love, cooperation because of love—This is the answer in the home, in the school, in the church, and in the nation. There is no other answer. God has made it this way. And remember, my subject this morning is not so much the rightness of this, as it is the fact that this is the only way of happiness, the only way of satisfaction, the only way of contentment. You were made to tick this way, and this is the only way you'll tick.

I remember when I was growing up, I thought, oh my, if I could just grow up. Do you know why? So I could do as I pleased. Well, I found out that a person isn't grown up as long as he feels that way—no matter if he has gray hair. You know when you've grown-up boys and girls, youth, and older people, you've grown up when you recognize that in this universe nobody is made to do as he pleases. We were made to please God and please others. This is the way we tick; this is the way to be happy. There is no other way.

As you hear this message from God's book, you realize that God is talking to you. Will you respond? God thinks so much of you personally that if you were the only person in the world, Jesus would have come from Heaven and died for you. You need Him, and He needs you. And all these human relationships are to help us understand our relationship between our soul and God.

[Appeal follows]

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