

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE



“Are You Hungry?”

By Jerry Cummings, Pastor of Living Hope Fellowship in Norton

1 Peter 2:2-3 “as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”

In this scripture we are instructed to have a desire, or a hunger, or thirst, for the word of God. Very little is taught or preached concerning Christians being hungry, or having a spiritual appetite, and yet it is so important for growing as children of God. David, a man after God’s own heart once said in Psalms, “As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.”

In our natural lives, God has made us to have appetites for the things that we need for physical health. Although these appetites can get us into trouble if undisciplined, yet without them we would be sickly or even die. We need food to live, and the Creator gave us feelings of hunger for food, as well as taste buds, to help us enjoy our food. In fact, when someone is ill, they often lose their appetite for food, and we know they are doing better when they regain their appetite.

Likewise when a person is born again, or becomes a child of God, they receive certain appetites that they did not have before. Things that did not hold much interest before, such as the

Bible, being around other Christians, prayer, worship, love, service, and the presence of God become desirable and even enjoyable, maybe for the first time. These desires are healthy and normal for the believer, and a lack of appetite for these things can be an indicator that things are not what they should be in our relationship with Christ.

Yet Peter here felt the need to exhort Christians to be hungry for God’s word. Even though these desires are a natural part of a healthy Christian life, yet apparently there are some

things we can do to affect our level of spiritual appetite. Here are some things that I find in life and in scripture that seem to affect our hunger level.

1. Neglecting the things of God: In our physical lives, a lack of eating produces hunger. But in the spiritual it seems to work the opposite. If we neglect the things of God, we become less interested in them.

2. Feeding too much on other things. Jesus said in Matthew 13, “Now he who received seed among the thorns is he

who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.” Anyone who has raised children will tell you that if a child eats too many sweets before a meal, they will have less appetite for healthy food. So we can become so consumed with other things that we lose our appetite for what is truly valuable.

3. Spending time with people who are hungry for God and His word, will greatly increase our spiritual desires. Like it or not, we all are affected by the people we spend time with. So hang out with the hungry ones.

4. As untreated illness can take away appetite, so undealt with issues in our lives can take away spiritual desire. Things such as unforgiveness, resentments, and the sins we rationalize as being ok, all will result in fading desires for the things of God.

In our natural lives, if we suddenly realized that we have no desire for food, we probably would go to the Doctor to see what was wrong. So in our walk with Christ, if we find that we have lost our desire, then maybe it is time to go to Jesus, the Doctor of our soul, and He is ready to help us back to life and health.



FREEDOM

Consider, on this Fourth of July, how important every American is to the future of our country and our world. We understand that our faith in God and acceptance of His guidance have made our nation strong. We were founded on faith and freedom. Each family that worships passes God’s strength to generations! Join together with family and friends at your house of worship this week and celebrate God’s gift of freedom.

Weekly Scripture Reading						
Ezekiel 39.1-29	Ezekiel 43.1-17	Matthew 18.21-35	Luke 17.1-10	Luke 18.1-14	Luke 19.1-10	John 8.1-11

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

©2014, Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P.O. Box 8187, Charlottesville, VA 22906, www.kwnews.com

KANSAS CLASSIFIEDS AD NETWORK

Auctions
LANDAUCTION Farm, Pasture, Hunting Land July 17th 2014 6pm
148ac eastern Kingman County visit www.BINAAUCTION.NET
Byron Bina, 620-338-6378 listing agent for Heerey Real Estate.

Great Miles = Great Pay • Late-Model Equipment Available • Regional Opportunities • Great Career Path • Paid Vacation • Excellent Benefits Please Call: (602) 714-9455

Help Wanted
DRIVERS WANTED NOW
Multiple Locations throughout Kansas Haul Railroad Crews 21+, Valid Driver’s License, Clean MVR Drug & Background Checks Apply Online: www.RCXhires.com

Help Wanted/Truck Driver
Quality Drive-Away hiring drivers for South Hutchinson and Salina locations. \$250 Sign-On Bonus! Deliver vehicles nationwide with plenty of reload opportunities! No CDL or truck required! Commercial experience preferred but not required! Apply online at QualityDriveAway.com or call 1-866-764-1601 today!

Help Wanted
“Partners In Excellence” OTR Drivers APU Equipped Pre-Pass EZ-pass passenger policy. 2012 & Newer equipment. 100% NO touch. Butler Transport 1-800-528-7825 www.butlertransport.com

Pet Supplies
All New! Happy Jack DuraSpot® Kills & Repels fleas, ticks & larvae. Repels mites, lice & mosquitoes. Contains Nylar® IGR. Orschlen Farm & Home. www.happyjackinc.com

Help Wanted
Want a Career Operating Heavy Equipment? Bulldozers, Backhoes, Excavators. “Hands On Training” & Certifications Offered. National Average 18-22 Hourly! Lifetime Job Placement Assistance. VA Benefits Eligible! 1-866-362-6497

Help Wanted/Truck Driver
EXPERIENCED DRIVER OR RECENT GRAD?
With Swift, you can grow to be an award-winning Class A CDL driver. We help you achieve Diamond Driver status with the best support there is. As a Diamond Driver, you earn additional pay on top of all the competitive incentives we offer. The very best, choose Swift. •

THE NORTON TELEGRAM
Call 785-877-3361 to place your classified
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

Work In Comfort Year-Round



AGRICULTURE | EQUESTRIAN | GARAGE | COMMERCIAL

With Morton’s Energy Performer Insulation Package
Discover the distinct advantage of a Morton building. Call today for information and to get started on your building project.

Eight offices serving Kansas
800-447-7436
mortonbuildings.com



800-447-7436 • mortonbuildings.com

Your hometown. Their future.



Imagine the possibilities for your community if everyone designated **just 5%** of their estates to hometown needs.

With the help of community foundations, we can create permanent sources of funding for local charities, schools, churches, parks, and so much more!



A little planning. A big impact.

Learn more at keepfiveinkansas.com

KANSAS FLINT HILLS, WABAUNSEE COUNTY

ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION



Sells with No Reserve!
Thursday, July 17, 2014

672 Acres m/l
Prime Native Tallgrass
Alta Vista, KS

Stunning expanse of near pristine Kansas Flint Hills grass offers tremendous views and ample trees. Consisting mostly of native tall grass prairie, perfect for grazing and hunting or scenic home sites. Inspections: July 3 & 10; 11-1 p.m.

Bidding Held Offsite:
Alma Community Center, Alma KS

CATES AUCTION
REAL ESTATE COMPANY



TOLL FREE 877-781-1134 www.CATESAUCTION.COM

WORSHIP WITH US

THE SPONSORS OF THIS CHURCH PAGE DO SO WITH PRIDE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Norton Animal Health Center
Complete Large and Small Animal Service
801 W. Holme - Norton - Phone 877-2411
Aaron R. White, DVM
Sarah Ketterl White, DVM
Monday thru Friday: 8-5; Saturday: 9-11 a.m.

Las Canteras Mexican Restaurant
DAILY SPECIALS
Monday-Thursday: 11:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Friday-Sunday: 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
A Family Owned Business – One in a Chain of Eleven
203 W. Washington, Norton - 785-874-4074

Whitney Construction and Farms
•Terracing
•Dozer Work
•Ponds
9499 Rd E3 - Norton - Phone 785-877-3745

Nelson Bros. Construction, Inc.
General Contractors
Equipment Rental
12862 Lower Dam Road - Norton, Kansas
Phone (785) 877-2554

Ag Valley Co-operative
Elevator • Service Station
877-5131 or 877-5188 - Norton
Clayton Branch -
Phone 785-693-4522

Pizza Hut
Come Join Us for Our
“SUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET”
Pizza, Pasta, Salad and Dessert
FREE COFFEE or TEA
W. Hwy. 36 - Norton - Phone 877-3359

First State Bank
“Your Progressive Community Bank”
MEMBER FDIC
105 W. Main - Norton, Kansas
Phone 785-877-3341

Moffet Drug Store
“Prescription Specialists”
Hallmark Cards and
Russell Stover Candies
102 S. State - Norton, Kansas
Phone 785-877-2721

Security Abstract Company
Abstracters Title Insurance Agents
Prompt - Efficient - Confidential
214 E. Washington - Norton
Phone 785-877-2141
Jolene L. Weiser, Owner

Bailey Electric
Serving Norton and Decatur County
Residential and Commercial
Licensed and Insured
Bucket Truck Service
785-871-1967 - Mark Bailey

Engel’s Sales and Service
Complete Auto Repair
Small Engines and
Lawn Care Equipment
•Toro •Lawnboy •Stihl Chain Saws
209 W. Lincoln - Norton - Phone 877-3391

Town and Country Kitchen
Daily Lunch Buffet and Evening Specials
Party and Banquet Facilities Available
Open 6:00 A.M.-8:30 P.M.
Brenda Sanders, Owner and Staff
East Hwy. 36 - 877-3511 - Norton, Kansas

Don’s Floor Covering
Residential and Commercial
•Carpet •Sheet Vinyl •Tile
Levolor Blinds - Panasonic Vacuums
113 W. Washington - Norton, Kansas
877-3002 - Don Kaus - FREE ESTIMATES

Countryside Veterinary Clinic of Oberlin, P.A.
N. Hwy. 83, Oberlin, Kansas (North of Sale Barn)
785-475-3808 • 1-800-953-3808
Mark R. Olson, D.V.M. • Travis A. Hissong, D.V.M.
24-Hour Emergency Service

Abel Tree Service
- ROY ABEL -
Fully Insured • Bucket Truck
•FREE ESTIMATES •
Stump Grinder
Phone 785-871-7275 - Norton, Kansas

The Norton Telegram
Your Local Newspaper
215 South Kansas Avenue, Norton
Phone 785-877-3361
Fax: 785-877-3732
Email: nortontelegram@nwkansas.com