“We are afraid that if we stop and really look at God in His Word, we might discover that He evokes greater awe and demands deeper worship than we are ready to give Him.”
Radical, page 29

Platt begins this chapter talking about being hungry. I would wager that most of us don’t really know what it is like to honestly be physically hungry because we have never had to go without food for very long. In the same way, we are so inundated with Christian things that we don’t really know what it means to hunger for God in the way people do in parts of the world where the Gospel and things of God are banned or limited.

Check out Psalm 63:1

Would that verse describe you and your hunger for God? Does your soul thirst for God? Does your flesh faint for Him?

The Psalmist was out in the wilderness when he wrote that Psalm. Good chance he literally was thirsting for water as he wrote those words. He understood what it was to thirst.

Think of the believers Platt wrote about at the beginning of this chapter. They knew what it was like to thirst for God. Why do we not have that same thirst?

What do we typically hunger and thirst for instead of God?

Look at Psalm 63:2-4

Why does the Psalmist say that he will praise the Lord?

In verse 3 the Psalmist says that the Lord’s steadfast love is better than life, and that is why he will praise the Lord. Would we say that same thing? Would we say that the steadfast love of the Lord is better than life? Probably not.
I mean, we say we love God, but we only need to take a few minutes to look at our bank statements, or take a few minutes and listen to what we talk about the most. That will reveal to us what we really love.

In verse 2 the Psalmist, David, speaks of beholding the power and glory of God. Do you think that because David had beheld the power and glory of the Lord he knew the love of the Lord was better than life? Perhaps we don’t feel the same way about the Lord as David did because we have never experienced Him in the same way.

Read Psalm 63:5-8

Why is the Psalmist satisfied with God?
In verse 6 he tells us that he meditates on the Lord at night and remembers Him when he is upon his bed, but I think we find the answer to the Psalmist’s satisfaction in verses 7-8. What do we read there?

“For you have been my help”

Many times we don’t worship God as we ought, and we don’t love Him as we should simply because we don’t think that we need him. We don’t think that we need His help. We think we are pretty good without him. Some people really need Jesus, but not me! I work a steady job, pay my taxes, teach my kids to be respectful, vote republican, etc., etc.

We seldom want to admit how wretched and helpless we are! That kind of admission begins to attack our pride! It might lead people to believe that I don’t have it all together! They might think I really am a sinner in need of a Saviour!

David Platt mentions that even the way we speak of responding to the Gospel shows we don’t really understand who we are and what God has done for us.
“So how do we respond to the Gospel? Suddenly contemporary Christianity sales pitches don’t seem adequate anymore. Ask Jesus to come into your heart. Invite Jesus to come into your life. Pray this prayer, sign this card, walk down the aisle, and accept Jesus as your personal Savior. Our attempt to reduce the Gospel to a shrink-wrapped presentation that persuades someone to say or pray the right things back to us no longer seem appropriate.

That is why none of these man-made catch phrases are in the Bible. You will not find...bow your heads, close your eyes, and repeat after me...you will not find...a superstitious sinner’s prayer...you will not find an emphasis on accepting Jesus.”

Perhaps when we begin our Christian journey with these thoughts and ideas that are so unbiblical; perhaps that is why we wind up being so off base many times in what we believe and how we live it our Christianity. We are off from the beginning, and we are never able to “right the ship” as it were.

When we talk of sin, repentance, confessing Christ as Lord, and other such Biblical terms we are reminded that we are sinners who desperately need a Savior. Then we can never again glory in ourselves or our accomplishments. When we understand our wretched state and what God has done so that we could be made right Him, then we can say as the Psalmist did in verse 2, “I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory”.

In verse 8 the Psalmist says, “My soul will cling to you”

May we understand the fullness of the Gospel in such a way that we will cast aside all other things so that our souls may cling to Christ alone as our only hope!