The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**Ps. 42:1** As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, my God. (NIV) Do you have a longing in your heart to be in the presence of the Father? Often times, we will use the phrase: I sure miss Uncle Harold, or I miss Grandma's peach cobbler. What we are saying is that people and things make a home in our hearts. And when they seem to not be present, we desire that they were. One major key to walking in the abundant life that the LORD has provided for us, is to have a continual thirst and hunger to abide in His company.

As we looked previously, the need for physical water is very forceful. We must have it to survive. In the spiritual realm, our thirst for the anointing and presence of the Father is the same. We should wake up with this urge to run to the Father and abide in Him all day long. Through every moment of the day, He is to be on our minds and our hearts so that we can see, hear and experience His will for each part of the day He has provided for us.

And what is the result? Just as the thirsty deer finds refreshment and hydration in the streams of water, so we find renewal and rejuvenation in the living water of the Father's presence. We are to stay close to Him. I like to think of it as being in earshot of the LORD. When He speaks, I can hear Him. When He moves, I can see Him. This won't happen if I wander off into my own little world. There is a plethora of distractions and temptations out there just waiting to entrap us into their world. But our desire to live and abide with the Father should supersede all of the pulls and desires that this world tries to lure us with. We must set some boundaries in our lives to keep us in the "safe zone." If you know that something or someone is going to be a temptation in your life, then steer clear and run to the Father. He will help you. He will guide you. You will stand with you and hold you close to His heart. He loves you so very much.

Dear LORD, help our thirst for You supersede our thirst for the things of this world. There is nothing better than You. Remind us all day, every day, that You are all we need. You are our LORD! In Jesus Name, Amen