

What is Revival, Really?

Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, February 19th 2023



Sermon Title: What is Revival, Really?

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 7:14; Isaiah 6:1-8; Acts 2:14-21

Sermon Focus: Something is happening at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky. What began as an average chapel service on February 8th has turned into an internationally recognized event! According to firsthand accounts, this has all the marks of a mighty move of God. This presents us with an opportunity to reflect on a biblical and historical view of renewal, revival, movements, and awakenings. In today's message, Pastor David shares what real "revival" looks like and how we can respond.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Did you know about what is happening at Asbury before this sermon? What were your initial thoughts? Have those thoughts changed since hearing Pastor David's message? What do you see is worth celebrating about this event?
2. Some have been quick to be critical of what is happening, for various reasons. Being skeptical can be a healthy thing (e.g., asking questions, researching, etc.). But skepticism that is unfounded or rooted in pride can easily turn into cynicism and hard-heartedness, if a person is reacting out of bad experiences or simply caught up in the snark, judgmentalism, and polarization of our culture. Have you seen this in others? Have you seen this in yourself? If so, how might God want us to repent and respond with an open, humble heart to what he is doing?
3. Did you find the definitions of renewal, revival, movement, and awakening that Pastor David shared helpful? With that in mind, what experiences have you had of renewal or "revival" in your journey? In the purest sense of the words, would you like to experience personal renewal and revival in our community of faith? Why do we need it? And what do you imagine that might look like?
4. Tim Keller says that when biblical revival is happening, you will see three things: (1) sleepy Christians wake up! (2) nominal Christians get converted; and (3) non-Christians come to Christ. While this is clearly a work of the Spirit, what should we be doing, personally and as a church, to address these three things?
5. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. This is for God's people. Keller believes that for revival to come we must move beyond "maintenance" prayer (physical needs & everyday concerns) and do "front-line" prayer. Why do you think we don't do this more regularly in the church? What is God saying to you about this?
6. Keller gives us five theological marks of revival. This is evidence that revival is happening, but it's also what we can do to prepare the ground for revival.
 - i. The gospel is recovered (from legalism & liberalism)
 - ii. There is a real sense of humility and repentance
 - iii. The felt-presence of God in public worship (1 Cor. 14:25)
 - iv. Church growth through new converts/disciples
 - v. Extraordinary "Kingdom-centered" prayer

Will you commit to praying for each of these things at Grantham Church? Please close in prayer together and ask God to help our congregation in these areas. Also, pray for renewal and revival in our church, our country, and our world.