

ROAD TO REVIVAL

What is “Revival” For The Gathering?

- For us, at The Gathering, we believe revival is:

A powerful move of God’s presence that restores us back to the Biblical standard of living like Jesus on the earth.

What is The End Result of Revival?

- The lasting fruit of revival is:

**Permanent and sustainable life-change by the power of God’s Word and God’s Spirit to live like Jesus on the earth today.
Sons and daughters of God, communing closely with God, being obedient to God on the earth.**

How Long Will Revival Last?

- The beauty of revival as we’ve just described it, is that Jesus intends for it to last until He returns to earth for His spotless and beloved bride - us!
- God absolutely wants to bring a powerful move of His presence that restores us back to Biblical Christ-likeness.
- If we are obedient to Him in this time of revival, then the impact and momentum of revival can be sustained until will we see Him face to face.

Repentance

God’s Call To Repentance

- “The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9
- “Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me.” Revelation 3:19-20
- “I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins are like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.” Isaiah 44:22

- “The people living in darkness have seen a great light...From that time on Jesus began to preach, ‘**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.**’” Matthew 4:16-17

Repentance - The Loving Heart of God

- “**I tell you that in the same way [one lost sheep] there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.**” Luke 15:7
- “Or do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness leads you to repentance?” Romans 2:4
- God views repentance much differently than we do. We tend to see repentance as a call to reckoning. Our Father sees it as an opportunity to wrap us with His robe of Jesus’ blood so that He can embrace us and return us to the safety of His household.
- 2 Pictures of Repentance: Steroid Cream and Losing Joy Joy.

Biblical and Practical Truths Concerning Repentance

1. Repentance Is A Lifestyle

- “Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord...When God raised up His Servant, He sent Him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.” Acts 3:19,26
- Our lifestyles of addiction, sin and rebellion didn’t happen overnight; and many times our healing and overcoming doesn’t either.
- God has given us the great refreshment of walking in continual repentance, immediately recognizing when we’ve gone astray and returning to Him.
- As my disciple-maker teaches; we want to become a “soft-mouthed horse” turning at the slightest tug of the Spirit on our hearts.
- Repentance is a GREAT lifestyle!

2. True Repentance Produces Fruit

- “Produce fruit in keeping in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.” Matthew 3:8-9

- Many times throughout God's journey with Israel, He told them to quit their sacrifices, worship services, and false fasting because He desires obedience rather than religious traditions that don't produce fruit.
- True repentance is not a lifeless cycle of apology and guilt. It is a doorway to forgiveness, freedom and God's fullness; but you have to walk through it.
- True repentance is coupled with whatever is necessary to truly turn back to God - mourning, accountability, removal of temptation...

3. Repentance Is A Change of Thinking

- Jesus said, "**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.**" (Matthew 4:17)
- The word "repent" in this passage literally means, "to think differently, to reconsider." (Strong's Concordance)
- Our heart is the treasure chest in which we keep all the things we consider to be true. Every person acts out of the truths that we keep in our heart.
- God's truth in our heart produces Godliness. False truths of the world and lies of satan that we accept as truth produce sin, distraction and pain.
- Part of repentance is taking a look at the things that we consider to be true in our hearts and lining them up with God's Word as the Spirit guides us.
- Continually reading God's Word and being in accountability will keep our treasure chest free from the lies of the world and satan.

4. Repentance Is Not Optional

- "In the past God overlooked such ignorance [idol worship], but now He commands all people everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30
- Repentance is not an option for the genuine follower of Christ - it is a command. We are to be people that are continually turning from sin and embracing the love, forgiveness and nearness of God.
- Repentance is not just for the religious fanatics, the emotionally weak, or the "really bad sinners." It is a gift from God that is for each of us today.
- We cannot work ourselves back into God's grace. We cannot earn His forgiveness. We have to embrace His command to humble ourselves and repent.

Consequences of Refusal To Repent

- “Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know what time I will come to you.”

Revelation 3:2-3

- “God’s kindness leads you to repentance...But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God’s wrath, when His righteous judgment will be revealed. God ‘will give to each one person according to what he has done.’”

Romans 2:4-6 (Psalm 62:12)