

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.

Being Filled with the Holy Spirit - Ephesians 5:15-21 & Luke 11:13

New Testament Examples

- Mary, mother of Jesus - “The angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.’” Luke 2:35
- Zachariah, father of John the Baptist - “His father Zachariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:” Luke 1:67
- Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist - “When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.” Luke 1:42

- John the Baptist - “He will be a joy and a delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit from birth.” Luke 1:14-15
- Jesus - “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness” Luke 4:1
- Jesus’ Disciples - “All of them were filled with Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.” Acts 2:4
- Saul/Paul - “So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized,” Acts 9:17
- Saul/Paul - “But Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze on him,” Acts 13:9
- First deacons - “Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.” Luke 6:3
- Barnabas - “He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.” Acts 11:24
- Stephen - “But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;” Acts 7:55
- Peter - “Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them,” Acts 4:8
- Disciples - “After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the Word of God boldly.” Acts 4:31
- Disciples - “And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 13:52
- Samaritans - “When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit,...Then Peter and John placed their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.” Acts 8:17
- Gentiles - “While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, ‘Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.’” Acts 10:44-64

- Us - “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.” Matthew 3:11 - affirmed for us as gentiles in Acts 11:15-17
- Us - “Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off - for all whom the Lord our God will call.’” Acts 2:38-39
- Us - “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days and they will prophesy.” Acts 2 :17-18

Why Is Being Filled with the Holy Spirit Necessary for Revival?

1. The Spirit Sets Us Free From Sin

- Lets read Romans 8:1-9 together please in the context of Romans 7:7-25.
- “For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.” Romans 8:13
- Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
- A wonderful part of experiencing personal revival is to be permanently set free from sin. Then we can be filled to overflowing with the Spirit, and continually focussed on the purposes of revival and God’s kingdom.
- Are you experiencing a Romans 8 kind of victory over sin? Would you allow the Holy Spirit to overwhelm you and help you to be transformed today?

2. The Spirit Gives Us the Mind of Christ

- Let’s read 1 Corinthians 2:6-16 together please.
- God has graciously given us the indescribable gift of the Holy Spirit that we may “understand what God has freely given us.”

- Many of us do not know who we truly are in Christ; or what God has already done for us and given us so that we can be effective for His kingdom.
- Without the Spirit we cannot understand these things of God. But with the Spirit, we can know the deep things of God! He will reveal God's truth to us about every area of our lives so that we can live in and sustain revival.
- Would you like to understand the Bible in a greater way? Do you want the truth of God to improve every area of your life? Would you like to hear God speak more clearly? Then ask God to fill you with His Spirit today.

3. The Spirit Empowers Us as Tools of Revival

- "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8
- The word "power" comes from the Greek word "dunamis" from which we get the word "dynamite." The word literally means, "miraculous power, ability, abundance, might, power, strength." (Strong's Concordance)
- The Spirit of God turns ordinary people like Saul, Peter, John, Philip, Stephen and us into powerful tools of His revival that change the world.
- The Holy Spirit is God's plan to set us free, reveal His will, and empower us to be obedient. Revival cannot be initiated or sustained without Him.
- Are you filled with the Holy Spirit? Would people describe your life as "filled with the Spirit and wisdom?" Do you want to be empowered for God?

Practical Steps for a Marriage in Crisis

- Acknowledge the person of the Holy Spirit and honor Him as God. Like me, you may need to repent for neglecting or refusing to honor Him.
- Recognize the Biblical need to be filled with the Spirit.
- Ask God to be filled with the Spirit. (Luke 11:13)
- Receive the filling of the Spirit by faith in the Scriptures. (Acts 2:38-39)
- Learn to walk in step with the Spirit - that's next week's message!