

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus” (Acts 3:19-20).

Peter had just healed a crippled man at the temple gate, and a crowd came running to see what had taken place. Peter preached to the crowd and invited them to repent so that “times of refreshing” might come from the Lord. And many did: “Many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand” (Acts 4:4). The early church was in the midst of a spiritual awakening. Not long before on the Day of Pentecost 3,000 accepted their message and were added to the church. Those early believers experienced life like most of us have never tasted.

As you read the following description, underline the words that describe their emotions.

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:42-47).

They devoted themselves, were filled with awe, and had glad and sincere hearts. They shared their resources in such a way that “there were no needy persons among them” (Acts 4:34). They enjoyed the favor of all the people. And people were being saved daily.

Oh that we could experience a time of refreshing like that! We’ve seen God work this way in history. (We’ll tell you a few of those stories.) Perhaps you are like us, we want to see God renew His works in our day.

Pause for just a moment and pray the prayer of Habakkuk:

“LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, O LORD. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known, in wrath remember mercy” (Hab. 3:2).

What Is Spiritual Awakening?

Spiritual awakening occurs when large numbers of people (or a high percentage of people in an area) experience this new birth to spiritual life in a short period of time. Spiritual awakenings are not just times of mass decisions for Christ. Decisions may or may not reflect a new birth. In a spiritual awakening people's lives are changed radically. Often a spiritual awakening results in a changed society in a city or a nation. Major social reforms often have accompanied spiritual awakening. When people put off the old life of sin and put on the new life in Christ things are different. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Cor. 5:17). Here are some examples of the kinds of things that take place during a spiritual awakening:

- Bars and taverns close for lack of business.
- Police and law enforcement personnel face a drop in work due to decreases in crime.
- Businesses receive money and merchandise from thieves, employees, and shoplifters who are seeking to return stolen goods.
- Christians and churches begin serious efforts at helping the poor and needy in the community through orphanages, rescue missions, and other needs-based ministries.
- Laws change or are enacted to protect the oppressed and to uphold justice.
- Reconciliation takes place between races and ethnic groups.
- Foul language is replaced by civil and wholesome talk.
- Evil practices cease and often are outlawed.
- Private and public acts of immorality decrease dramatically.
- Marriages are restored, and family life is strengthened.

If that sounds like the kind of place you'd enjoy living and rearing a family, then let's seek the Lord together for revival and spiritual awakening in our land. If our nation is going to turn around from the rapid moral decline we're in, people's lives are going to have to change. Only Christ can change lives that drastically. And that's what we want to seek together—a changed nation.

SEEKING GOD FOR REVIVAL IN THE LAND



- Take some time to pray. Tell God how much you long to see a change in the society around you. Mention some of the things you'd like to see changed.
- Describe to God how dry and thirsty you are for a fresh encounter with Him. Ask Him to pour out refreshing springs of living water on you and those around you.
- Give God permission to show you the part you are to play in this work and pledge yourself to obey all that He asks of you.

*Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting (Ps. 139:23-24).*

In the fall of 1904 a revival broke out in Wales. During the next six months, 100,000 people were saved in a great spiritual awakening! No one organized the campaign. They did not use advertising, public relations, radio broadcast, or great soul winning and witnessing campaigns. God did a sovereign work that captured the attention of the world. When the Spirit of God fell on a people who were right with Him, the lights came on all over the place. Without anybody witnessing to them, people cried out: "What must I do to be saved?"

Wales is a principality of Great Britain west of London. The area has a wonderful history of revivals among God's people. By the beginning of the Twentieth Century people had a longing for a fresh wind of God's Spirit. The last great revival had taken place in 1859-60. Church membership was in decline. People were indifferent to religious matters. The churches were formal. God's people needed revival.

By 1904 God was at work in many places and in many people throughout Wales leading up to the revival. The nation was like a tender box God had prepared for the quick spread of revival fires. God chose to use a young man named Evan Roberts in a special way. Evan worked in the coal mines of Wales, but he had a great burden for revival. For 13 years he prayed for an outpouring of God's Spirit. Prayer meetings with different groups of God's people became a major emphasis in his life. Early in 1904 Evan accepted God's call on his life to preach, and he went to school to prepare.

Following a Sunday service, Seth Joshua led in prayer. One of his requests was, "Lord, bend us." The Spirit of God used that simple statement to touch Evan's heart. On his way out the door he kept praying, "O Lord, bend me!"

God gave Evan a burden to go to his home church in Loughor for a week of services with the young people. Following a Monday night prayer meeting on October 31, 1904, seventeen young people stayed to hear Evan's message. His message had four points:

1. You must put away any unconfessed sin.
2. You must put away any doubtful habit.
3. You must obey the Spirit promptly.
4. You must confess Christ publicly.

That night all seventeen responded to his appeal. Crowds increased nightly. The Spirit was poured out on the region as God's people returned to Him. Joy was restored to their worship. Lost people were dramatically converted—70,000 in two months, 85,000 in five months, and over 100,000 in the six months.

These commitments were life changing. Taverns closed due to the lack business. Crime dropped dramatically leaving the police with little to do. People paid old debts and made restitution for thefts and other wrongs committed. There was even a work slow down in the coal mines as the mules had to learn a new language of the converted miners. News of the revival spread to other countries, and people were stirred to prayer. Soon God was at work in cities and nations around the world bringing people to Himself.

Read the four points of Evan Robert's message and ask God if He wants you to respond to Him in any specific area of your life.

- ① Do you have any sin that remains unconfessed that you need to get right with God or others? Is there a wrong that needs to be made right or a debt that needs to be repaid? Be specific in acknowledging your sin to the Lord and return to Him for restoration of life. If your sin involves others, make things right with those you've offended.
- ② Do you have any doubtful habits—actions that you question whether they are right or wrong and you just don't know for sure? Don't even take the chance. Put them away and keep your conscience clear.
- ③ Have you sensed God has spoken to you by His Word or by His Spirit and you have not obeyed Him? Have you delayed your obedience? Choose to be prompt in your obedience to the Holy Spirit.
- ④ Have you confessed your faith in Christ publicly? Do the people in your family, at your workplace, and in other circles of influence know of your relationship to Christ? If not, tell them your story of what Christ has done for you.

SEEKING GOD FOR REVIVAL IN THE LAND



- Pray that many Christians around the nation, in your own city or community, and in your own church will respond to God's call to holy living, prompt obedience, and public witness to the joy of following Christ.
- Pray that God will so transform your own life that the change will be evident to everyone around you—family, relatives, fellow church members, neighbors, and coworkers.
- Pray for widespread spiritual awakening in your city and in our nation.

For further reading on the Welsh Revival see: *The Flaming Tongue* by J. Edwin Orr, Chicago: Moody Press, 1973; or *Glory Filled the Land* edited by Richard Owen Roberts, Wheaton: International Awakening Press, 1989.

A CYCLE OF SIN, DISCIPLINE, AND RESTORATION

“I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand [church] from its place” (Rev. 2:4-5).

Though spiritual awakening is God’s plan for the fruitfulness of His people, churches like the one in Ephesus described above have a tendency to depart from the Lord. We see this cycle throughout the history of God’s people. Over and over again, the Book of Judges describes this cycle among the Israelites in Old Testament times. The following verses describe the first cycle in Judges 2.

1. **The People Served the Lord:** “The people served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had seen all the great things the LORD had done for Israel” (Judg. 2:7). This is frequently the case. The generation of people who have experienced God’s mighty works are faithful to Him the rest of their lives.
2. **The People Forsook the Lord:** “After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel. Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals” (Judg. 2:10-11). The next generation turned away from the Lord and served other gods.
3. **God Defeated Them Through Enemies:** “In his anger against Israel the LORD handed them over to raiders who plundered them. He sold them to their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the LORD was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them” (Judg. 2:14-15). God brought discipline on His people just as He had said He would.
4. **The People Cried Out for Help:** “They were in great distress... [and] the LORD had compassion on them as they groaned under those who oppressed and afflicted them” (Judg. 2:15,18).
5. **God Had Compassion and Delivered:** “The LORD raised up judges who delivered them out of the hand of those who plundered them.... for the LORD was moved to pity” (Judg. 2:16,18, NKJV).

Some people today think that God only worked this way in the Old Testament. Part of the reason we don’t see the same cycles in New Testament times is that the church was in the midst of spiritual awakening most of that period. However, by the time we reach the end of the New Testament, we see the cycle had begun again in some churches. In Revelation 2–3 we read the words of the resurrected Christ as he calls different churches to repent and return to Him.

As you read the following messages from Christ, underline the sin problem for which He was calling for repentance. Notice also the kinds of discipline Christ promised those who would not repent.

To the Church in Pergamum: *“I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth”* (Rev. 2:14-16).

To the Church in Thyatira: *“I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds. Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan’s so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): Only hold on to what you have until I come”* (Rev. 2:20-25).

To the Church at Sardis: *“I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of 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 at what time I will come to you”* (Rev. 3:1-3).

To the Church at Laodicea: *“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked....*

“Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent” (Rev. 3:15-17,19).

This cycle of departure and return to the Lord is a sad characteristic of God’s people throughout the ages. The way God deals with His people in this cycle forms a pattern that we will examine tomorrow.

SEEKING GOD FOR REVIVAL IN THE LAND



- Jesus sent a message to these churches in Asia Minor. Ask Him to speak to you and your church about your relationship to Him.
- Pray that He will reveal His message to our nation as well.

GOD'S PATTERN FOR REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

“Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty (Mal. 3:7).

God has revealed in Scripture His pattern for using His people to bring about the kind of spiritual awakening the early church experienced. The problem we face in our day is that God's people have departed from God's standards, and we are no longer the kind of clean and faithful instruments through which He works to bring spiritual awakening. In Scripture we've seen a cycle of departure that brings God's discipline and a call for repentance. When His people have returned to Him, He has revived them and restored life and vitality together with a manifestation of His presence and power. By understanding the pattern and God's requirements, we can seek the Lord together for such a day in our own land.

Turn to the inside back cover and read the seven phases in God's pattern. Study the diagram and pray that God will enable you to understand His ways so you can experience His best for your life, your church, and for our nation.

Today, let's take a brief overview of the entire pattern. Then over the next few weeks, we will look at the various phases in more detail.

Phase 1: *God is on mission to redeem a lost world. He calls a people into a relationship with Himself, and He accomplishes His work through them.* God has chosen and saved a people that are His own. His plan is to work through His people to proclaim Christ and bring lost men, women, and children to faith in Him. Our mission is to be on mission with Him.

Phase 2: *God's people tend to depart from Him turning to substitutes for His presence, His purposes, and His ways.* Individuals and churches tend to depart from the Lord. The departure begins with a shift of their hearts where they don't love the Lord like they used to love Him. That shift of their hearts leads to a lack of obedience, and they begin to accept substitutes for God, His purposes, and His ways.

Phase 3: *God disciplines His people because of His love.* God knows that people and churches can only experience fullness of life in a right relationship with Him. Because of His love, He disciplines wayward Christians and churches to bring them back to Himself. He also disciplines them because His plan for world redemption slows down when His people have departed. He loves the lost world too much to permit that to continue.

Phase 4: *God's people cry out to Him for help.* God's discipline becomes more and more intense until His people cry out to Him. He is patient and longsuf-

fering. Like the loving Father of the Prodigal Son, God waits eagerly for His children to return to Him.

Phase 5: *God calls His people to repent and return to Him or perish.* God clearly defines the requirements for repentance. He doesn't give options. People and churches can return to Him or suffer the consequences of their sin. He sets before His people a choice of life and death. When a church continues to refuse to repent, it is no longer of any use for the Kingdom. Like the church at Ephesus, God may remove the church from usefulness or existence. God's great desire, however, is that His people return to Him.

Phase 6: *God revives His repentant people by restoring them to a right relationship with Himself.* God stands ready to receive His people when they return. He cleanses and forgives. He gives a new heart to serve Him and fullness of the Holy Spirit to empower them for His work. He restores the joy of being in the family of God.

Phase 7: *God exalts His Son Jesus in His people and draws the lost to saving faith in Him.* When God has a people rightly related to Himself, He is able to display His glory to a watching world. When a people experience the mighty power of God bringing wholeness to their lives, others will notice and want a similar experience of life. Spiritual awakening becomes a natural by-product of a revived people.

Take a look back through the seven phases.

Where do you think our nation is in God's pattern? Phase ____ Why?

Where is your city? Phase ____ Your church? Phase ____
Your denomination? Phase ____ Your family? Phase ____

Where are you in God's pattern? Phase ____

SEEKING GOD FOR REVIVAL IN THE LAND



- Pray that God's people will have a growing awareness of their need to return to the Lord and a willingness to do so.
- Pray that God will speak to you and to those with whom you will be meeting to seek the Lord together.
- Ask God to help you understand the way to revival for His glory.

You showed favor to your land, O LORD... You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins. You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger. Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us. Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations? Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? (Ps. 85:1-6).

The word *revival* has a variety of meanings for Christians today. For some it means a series of meetings in the spring or fall. Some think of revival as a time when people place their faith in Christ and receive Him as Savior and Lord. Other people have used the term revival to describe a spiritual awakening where large numbers of people are converted.

In recent history we have tended to use the term revival to describe a time of evangelistic services. That has not always been the case. In fact, not many decades ago, churches usually held two-week revival meetings. The first week focused on God's people getting right with Him—that was the revival if they really returned to a right relationship with the Lord. The second week focused on evangelistic preaching to the lost. As churches have accommodated their plans to the pressures on family schedules, revival services have been reduced to three or four days, if they take place at all. With the limited time, churches often have chosen to emphasize evangelism rather than focusing on getting God's people right with the Lord. Consequently, we have lost our understanding of what revival really is.

What is genuine revival? The word *revive* is made up of two parts: *re* meaning "again" and *vive* meaning "to live." Thus, *revive* means "to live again, to come or be brought back to life, health, or vitality." Revival is a time when spiritual life and vitality is restored. Someone quoted an old country preacher as saying, "You can't be revived unless you have first been *vived!*" Those who are dead in trespasses and sins don't need revival; they need life that comes by being born again. Revival is a return to spiritual health after a period of spiritual decline into sin and broken fellowship with God. We will use the word *revival* to describe what God does to restore His people to a right relationship with Him. Revival is for God's people when they need to be forgiven and restored to life, spiritual health, and vitality. Thus, revival occurs when God restores spiritual health and vitality to His people.

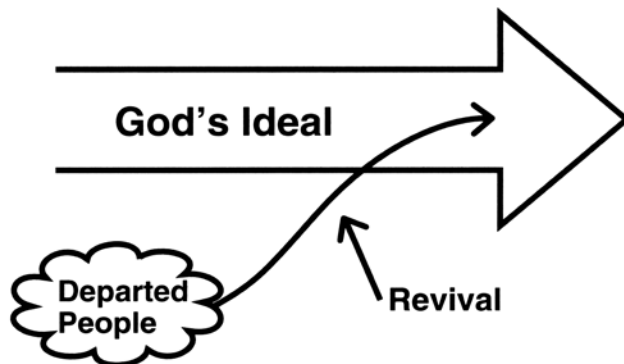
Revival is a sovereign act of God. We cannot force Him to do anything. Yet, in His sovereignty God has set forth the requirements for revival. He has said, "Return to me, and I will return to you" (Mal. 3:7). The essence of revival is returning to the Lord. This can happen quickly or it can take place over time.

For instance, Church A needs revival. Sin and compromise have become common, even among the members. Even though the church hears preaching and studies the Bible Sunday after Sunday, people are not repenting and

returning to the Lord. They may even resist the whole idea of repenting of sin. But then God gets the attention of His people through a crisis or a significant experience in a service. They recognize how displeasing they are to the Lord. In deep brokenness and shame they come before the Lord confessing sin and seeking forgiveness, cleansing, and restoration. When God sees that they are returning with their hearts, He sends genuine revival. This kind of revival experience can happen quickly and almost unexpectedly.

Church B has similar spiritual needs, but God begins to convict the people of Church B of sin through preaching and Bible study. When God surfaces sin, the people respond to the Lord with repentant hearts. God peels off a layer of sin, like a layer of skin on an onion. Then, He begins peeling away another layer. With each step along the way, the people of Church B respond to the Lord by repenting of their sin and returning to God and His ways. With no special event and with no ability to pinpoint a day or time that revival came, this church eventually comes to understand that things are different. They say, "We are not the people we used to be. God's presence and power have returned. We love each other and are experiencing unity again!"

God sent revival to Church A and to Church B. Revival came quickly to Church A, but it came to Church B in a slower process over a period of time. Either way, when God's people return to Him and God returns to His people, revival has come. We might diagram revival using the illustration below. Notice that revival has occurred when God's people return to being the people God intends them to be. That can happen quickly or over time.



SEEKING GOD FOR REVIVAL IN THE LAND



- If it expresses your desires, pray the prayer of the Psalmist in Psalm 85 at the beginning of today's devotional.
- Pray for God to send revival to your life and your church. Pray that revival will become "contagious" and spread to many churches and communities throughout our nation.

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone.... This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:1-4).

Wellington, Texas is a rural community with about 3,500 people in the county. First Baptist Church had been through a time of renewal. The pastor couldn't quite explain what had happened. But he said, "This church is different. We are not the same church we were three years ago. We have a spirit of unity. The people love each other. They love the Lord and are seeking to obey Him. They have a burden to pray and a burden to see the lost come to saving faith in Christ."

For two years prior to 1995, the church had not held the traditional Spring and Fall "revival" services. They focused their attention on seeking the Lord. They prepared to follow the Lord when He let them know what they were to do. Early in 1995 as groups and individuals were praying, they began to sense a burden to give themselves more fully to prayer. They had studied God's pattern for revival and spiritual awakening. Since they realized that somehow God had revived His people, they anticipated that they would begin to see a harvest of lost people being saved. They were burdened that they were not seeing a harvest come. As they prayed and sought the counsel of others, they came to the following plan.

They learned from a study of the Jewish festivals, that the Jews gave a family emphasis to counting up the 50 days to Pentecost. The emphasis on Pentecost is first fruits, and the early church experienced the fulfillment of the first fruits on the Day of Pentecost when 3,000 were converted. They also heard about Andrew Murray's testimony regarding Pentecost Prayer Meetings the ten days between Ascension and Pentecost. As an entire congregation they committed the Spring of 1995 to an emphasis on prayer and especially prayer for a spiritual harvest.

Beginning the day after Passover, families met daily to read a portion of Scriptures and pray. The families began listing every lost person they knew personally and began to pray for their salvation. This continued for the 50 days up to Pentecost.

For six weeks prior to Pentecost Sunday, the entire church studied through a course on prayer and praying together—*In God's Presence* by T. W. Hunt and Claude King. Each Sunday every adult and youth Sunday School class spent an hour praying together and practicing what they had learned about prayer. During their worship services, volunteers spent the time in a prayer room praying for special prayer requests submitted by members. They also began praying through a growing list of lost people in their community.

On each of the ten days prior to Pentecost they met nightly to pray together. One night they invited all the other churches in the community to join them in

prayer for their county. One night they invited all their sister Baptist churches to pray together and for each other. Some nights they divided and went to homes to pray in small groups. Some small groups went on prayer walks through town and still others went on prayer drives through the county praying for a harvest. One night the church commissioned a team of members who were leaving on an evangelistic mission trip to Russia, and they prayed for a spiritual harvest. By the time Pentecost Sunday came, God had prepared this church as a “house of prayer for the nations.”

Pentecost Sunday’s service became a time of testimony and sharing about what God had done in recent months. Some who had never given a public testimony, told the story about how they came to know Christ. Four people made public commitments to the Lord that day. These were seen as first fruits in Wellington! Then the church held a “dinner on the grounds” to celebrate God’s bounty and the provision for the physical needs of His people. One person who had heard the church service on the local cable television channel came by the church and was born again that afternoon.

During the coming months they began to see the power of the Lord released in bringing people to Christ. Their Russian mission trip saw 400 people come to faith in Christ. Their church is active in a variety of prison ministries. They saw 225 prisoners come to saving faith in Christ through that ministry. Members saw prisoner’s lives radically changed by the Lord as they began to disciple them in their faith. Even in this small community, they saw 25 of the people they had been praying for come to Christ. Now they continue to pray realizing that prayer is a primary work strategy for a church and that God answers the prayers of a people who are right with Him.

If we are going to see a turn-around in the morality of our own nation, people will need to change. And people will only change sufficiently when they have become new creations in Christ (See 2 Cor. 5:17). You and your church may not be able to do much to change the millions of people in our nation, but you can start in your own community. If churches around the nation will shine the light of the gospel of Christ into their communities, the light of Christ can begin to dispel the darkness in our land.

SEEKING GOD FOR REVIVAL IN THE LAND



- Ask God to cleanse your life, your small group, and your church in such a way that you can shine the light of Christ into your world.
- Pray that God will cause your church to return to Him in revival.
- Begin to make a list of people in your circles of relationship who do not know Jesus Christ as Savior. Begin to pray that God will draw them to His Son Jesus. Give Him permission to use you.
- Pray that the Lord will call laborers into His harvest fields.

**SEEKING GOD
TOGETHER
FOR REVIVAL
IN THE LAND****SESSION ONE**

Call on a volunteer to open your session with prayer.

Read Psalm 85.

Discuss what the passage has to say about revival in the land. What would need to change in our nation for these truths to become a reality? Pray verses 4-7 to the Lord.

Review what God has been saying to you through His Word and His Spirit.

1. What Scripture, statement, idea, testimony, or illustration that you read this week was most significant or meaningful to you and why?
2. What truth has God revealed this week that seems to have the greatest significance for revival in our nation?

Respond to the Lord in prayer.

Ask the Spirit to guide your prayers according to the will of the Father. Pray conversationally focusing on one subject at a time. Respond to the Lord about the things He has been revealing in your devotions this week.

Talk Together. Discuss some of the following questions or raise questions of your own.

1. What do we need to do individually or as a group in response to what God is saying through His Word, prayer, circumstances, and other believers?
2. What are the characteristics of a spiritual awakening that we need in our nation today?
3. Discuss Evan Roberts four-point message on page 8. What does this message have to say to us and our church?
4. What sins in the churches of Revelation 2–3 (p. 11) do we see in our churches? Are we seeing some of the disciplines promised to those churches?
5. How did you respond to the activity on page 13? Where do you see our nation and why? Where do you see our church and why?
6. Are there ideas for our church to be gleaned from the experience of the church in Wellington, Texas on pages 16-17?

Testify to what God has done.

If God has done something special in your prayer times this week or in your personal walk with Him, share a brief testimony with a focus on what God has done.

Seek God Together for Revival in the Land

Spend the remainder of your time in prayer for a fresh encounter with God in revival in your lives, churches, communities, and in our land. Pray about one topic at a time. Let the Spirit guide your prayers. You may want to consider some of the following directions for your prayers. Take notes if God reveals things as you pray.

1. Ask God to cleanse your life, your small group, and your church in such a way that you can shine the light of Christ into your world.
2. Pray that God will cause your church to return to Him in revival.
3. Ask the Lord to help you understand the condition of our nation, cities, and churches. Ask Him to help you feel the grief He feels.

NOTES