

Revive Us

Individual Studies

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Adapted from:

Revive Us: A Heart Ready for Revival
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Personal Study 1

A Clear Vision

When you hear the word revival what comes to mind?

Revival has many connotations, and those meanings aren't necessarily wrong. The problem comes when our understanding is limited to a certain way we have learned about or experienced revival.

We might begin to think revival is a spiritual outcome we can produce. It's not.

True biblical revival isn't something we can program into church or personal life. It is different than organizing a campaign. One is worked up, the other is sent down. Revival is God coming down.

Read the following passages. Record what happened when God showed up.

Genesis 17:1-4

Exodus 3:1-10

Ezekiel 1:28-2:4

When we encounter God, three things happen—we get a right view of God, a right view of self, and a heart for the world. It happened with Abraham, Moses, and Ezekiel. Let's look now to see how it happened with Isaiah.

Look Upward

Developing a correct understanding of God

Read Isaiah 6:1-8. Describe how Isaiah saw the Lord in verses 1-4.

What are the implications of serving a holy God?

Note the symbolism the vision uses to reveal a correct understanding of who God is:

- **AUTHORITY:** “I saw the Lord seated” (vs. 1)
- **MAJESTY:** “on a . . . throne” (vs. 1)
- **WORTH:** “high and lofty” (vs. 1)
- **GLORY:** “the hem of His robe filled the temple” (vs. 1)
- **PRESENCE:** “the temple was filled with smoke” (vs. 4)

Why might we struggle to have a correct understanding of God's unrivaled sovereignty in our lives?

Is He Lord over your life? Is He calling the shots? Are you doing things His way? Is He the center of your life? That only happens when you get a true glimpse of God.

Look Inward

An Honest Self-Assessment

Reread Isaiah 6:5. How did Isaiah respond to this clear vision of God?

Why do we need a correct view of God to have a correct view of ourselves?

Isaiah couldn't see himself for what he was, until he saw God. Being in God's presence helped Isaiah see his unworthiness.

If Isaiah's encounter with God ended with the words in verse 5 alone, why would God still be worthy of our worship and praise?

Because God is Holy, we are responsible to Him for every sinful action, every careless word, and every evil thought. Seeing who God is makes us realize who we are, and our unworthiness. Isaiah didn't say "Woe is everybody else", He cried out, "Woe is me". He realized the wickedness of his heart, pride in his life, and immorality in his mind.

Why is it sometimes easier for us to point out sin in others' lives than in our own?

Why is it wrong to decide who we are before God, by comparing ourselves to others?

It is Human nature to not want to acknowledge how bad we are. We'd rather point out how bad others are.

We do not see ourselves as ruined, don't believe we are unclean, or believe we are that bad at all. A clear vision of God gives us a clear vision of ourselves.

Can revival take place without honest self-assessment? Explain.

Read 1 John 1:7-10. In light of the holiness of God, what honest self-assessment do we each need to make?

Revival starts individually. When you stand before God, he will compare you to His Son, who is the epitome of perfection.

Reread Isaiah verses 6-7. Where do we see the gospel in these verses?

What honest self-assessment could Isaiah make when this event took place?

God had every right to destroy Isaiah, but He instead saved him. The only way a sinful human being can come into the presence of a holy God is to be cleansed of all unrighteousness.

You are more sinful than you ever dared to believe and more loved by God than you ever dared to hope.

A Principle for Personal Revival

If you cover your sin, God will uncover it.

But if you uncover or confess your sin, God

will cover it with the blood of His Son Jesus

Look Outward

A Clear Picture of the Mission

Read Isaiah 6:8. How did Isaiah respond to the clear vision God and himself that he received?

Has true revival taken place if it does not result in missional living? Why?

The forgiveness Isaiah received, and we receive, from God demands a response. When Isaiah had seen and felt the mercy of God, it changed his entire life. Has God's forgiveness changed your life?

When Jesus is Lord of your life, you'll go wherever He sends you and do whatever He asks of you. What is your gut reaction to that statement? How does it scare you? How does it excite you?

Because it is the Lord's responsibility to protect us, we don't have to worry about a thing, we just have to fix our eyes on Jesus, with a clear picture of his mission. He will lead us, guide us, and instruct us along the way.

How would your life change if you truly walked in the full assurance of the following statement?

Because God's concern is to protect and direct my way, my only concern is to know and do God's will.

True revival happens when we gain a right view of God, self, and a heart for the world. When we see who God is, we must respond.

A Principle for Personal Revival

*We don't experience revival because
we've been content to live without it.*

*You have as much of God as you want in your life
and there is so much more*