

Sunday Sermon Notes

"When Revival Comes"

When revival comes, expect:

Feelings of Conviction
Obedience at the altar
Expressions of praise
"Joy in the camp"

But genuine revival means change!

Change in what is prioritized:

Bible study becomes exciting
Small groups are the "thing"
Worship is contagious
Prayer is a "happening"

Change in the mood of the church:

We will fear God
We will adore God
We will see God
We will hear God

Change in our attitude toward possessions:

People matter more than things
Generosity is a life-style
Tithing is no longer an issue
Money is no longer the problem

Change in our relationships:

Restitution: making wrongs right
Reconciliation: forgive and be forgiven
Restoration: repairing what is broken
Reunion: Reviving lost relationships

Change in the lives of the unsaved:

God will do the work
People really will be saved
Conversions will become the norm
The church will grow

Can I still say I really do want revival?

Digging Deeper

Notes for Individual Meditation and Small Group Discussion

Reviewing the Sermon:

Share with the group a memory of a service or series of services when you felt the church you were in was experiencing revival.

What do you think happens when a revival is primarily an emotional outpouring and people do not experience genuine change?

Which of the kinds of change Pastor Rogers describes do you think is the most important? Which kind is the most difficult to experience?

Why do you think people are so inclined to settle for just a feeling of revival and not experience genuine revival?

What do you think it will take for our church to have a genuine revival?

Discussion Questions

(Remember that not all questions must be used)

The book of Revelation is a very intimidating and sometimes frightening book to many Christians. When understood as it was intended, however, we discover that it is a book of hope and encouragement to the Church and Christians to remain faithful even when it seems evil and sin are winning. We know that by staying true to our faith we are on the winning side, and God will ultimately bring victory.

In chapters 2-3 of Revelation John hears messages from Jesus directed to seven churches in what was then known as Asia

(modern-day Turkey). Our Bible study this week focuses on Jesus' message to the church at Laodicea. It has been observed that this church is in many ways like the church of today.

Read Revelation 3:14-22

What do you think Jesus means when he accuses the church of being "lukewarm"? What do you think the characteristics are of a lukewarm church?

Why would Jesus prefer them to be either hot or cold, but not lukewarm? How can it be better for a church to be cold rather than lukewarm?

In what ways can a church begin to think of itself as rich when it is actually poor? Why does a lukewarm church not think of itself as being needy?

What do you think Jesus means by telling them to buy from him "gold refined in the fire"? What are some of the things like this we need to receive from the Lord?

Jesus has used very strong words to describe the spiritual condition of the Laodiceans. How does verse 19 help us to understand His feelings toward this church? For what does he want them to repent?

Read again verse 20. How does reading this verse in its context change what you have thought about the meaning of this verse? Why do you think Christians are so reluctant to think of this verse as referring to them?

What is the reward of being an "overcomer"? What does the Laodicean church need to overcome?

Prayer time: Please make the focus of your prayer time on our upcoming revival services.

Revival Fires

March 2, 2008

Acts 2:42-47

***"When Revival
Comes"***

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Master copy of notes and audio version of the sermon at
www.middletownnaz.com