

## What Does God Do In Revival?

It isn't about good preaching, true revivals centers around the altar. It isn't about church growth; it isn't about wonderful praise and worship. Revival is a work in the heart, and that only happens at the altar. In fact, God will be moving so greatly that there may be very little preaching in a revival service.

The revival that God is bringing is different than any other before. This I believe will be a mightier work, with greater signs and wonders than ever before. We really need prophets and apostles to preach. Why? Because God needs to work through those ministry gifts in order to accomplish the work He is preparing to do.

Intercessory prayer is essential to revival, but so is altar time. The prayer will prepare the ground for God to move. The altar is where God will do the moving. These two cornerstones will be the framework that God will use to accomplish His work. First of all, revival isn't getting an evangelist to come in, and do a series of meetings to stir the people up. For it to be true revival, it must be a sovereign work of God.

Only God can accomplish it and that in His timing, and The prefix "re" in the English language means "to do again". The root word "vive" is from the Latin for "life". So, "revive" means "to bring to life again."

Revival really isn't for the lost, but for the saved. We tend to think of revival as getting the lost into the church. But, that not what's it's all about. When revival is happening, the lost will come into the church. However, the reason they will come is because of the changed hearts of God's people. That will draw them. That will show them their need for salvation. Once the Holy Spirit cleans up the Body of Christ, then He will start drawing the unsaved in.

Revival is always birthed through prayer. Not your typical prayer meeting, but true crying out to God in intercession. An hour long prayer meeting where 45 minutes is spent sharing prayer requests and 15 minutes of giving God our shopping list isn't what God's looking for. He will only be free to move when we start crying out to Him with a true hunger for His Spirit to pour out upon us.

We must bathe our churches in prayer. There must be so much prayer that it becomes a tangible forces that you can feel when you walk into the sanctuary.

Pray, Pray, pray, pray, pray and pray some more! Cry out to God for His out pouring, and watch, when the time is right, He will move. God sometimes use another vessel than the pastor. Sometimes God has brought someone else in to light the fire. That doesn't mean the pastor isn't important, he's the one who has to prepare the fire. As the revival progresses, God will use a team of the pastor, the worship leader, and the prophet or apostle to accomplish His Will.

Revival by its very nature requires drastic change. God will require us to change our schedules, change our plans, change our worship, change our administration of the church, in fact it will require us to change just about everything that we do. The first work of revival will be in purifying. The cleansing fire of God must remove the dross from our lives, making us a vessel fit for the Master's use.

The second work of revival will be one of restoration. The enemy has stolen much from us over the years, and God must restore it to us. Otherwise, we will come into His presence without everything that He has blessed us with.

The third work of revival will be one of spreading. The current revivals in this country are individual churches. God desires to make this work spread throughout the communities, with churches working in harmony.

The fourth work of revival will be one of ingathering. Once God has prepared us to receive the rest of His sheep; He will start bringing them in. This will be a time of tremendous growth, as God brings in those who have walked away from the church, and those who have never been in a church.

It is at the altar that God will accomplish these four works. Don't despise the time at the altar! It is essential! That is the place where God will do the surgery upon our hearts. We must be ready and watchful for all that God desires to do.