**BETTER TOGETHER** in 2022

MARCH 6, 2022

Robert Jackman, *Campus Pastor*

**Revive**

**Draw A Circle**

Psalm 51; Psalm 86:5; Isaiah 6:5



We began this series last week, a series that we hope will change our lives, our church, and our community.

**Renewal** - When God touches the heart of a single individual

**Reviva**l - When God touches a community of faith   
**Awakening** – When the wider society is impacted

*“God wants to put His glory on display in such beautiful and profound ways that it would destroy our small view of God. May the hammer of a higher God smash your small cosmos”.* – G.K. Chesterson

**Revival** - *to be quickened, made alive, restored. It is a rekindling of our love and passion for God that we once knew.*

You cannot have revival without **remembering**, **repenting**, and **returning**.

**How do you know when you need a fresh touch from God?**

You know you need a fresh touch from God when you find yourself: Perfunctory – Inattentive – Cynical – Critical – Stressed – Depressed – In crisis – Unmotivated – Overwhelmed – Distracted – Too busy for Him – Entertaining sin

Many of us need to be revived, so how do we get it?

Do we really want it?

“As long as you are content to live **without** revival, you **will**.

*“Some people fear to consecrate themselves to God for the same reason they fear to write a blank check.”* ― Wyatt Allen

Wanting more of God is not a **risk**. Living without **wanting** Him is.

*Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?”*  John 1:38 NIV

“What do you want?” Jesus’ question prompts a deep dive into our own beliefs, hopes, and desires to truly having a thriving life. He asks us … What do you want?

I do not know about you, but I want revival! We need it; it is His desire, but we must want it.

And yes, wanting a fresh touch from God might require something of you, but the revival of your soul is so worth it.

*“When the supernatural power of God is blown on us, it washes the status quo away. When the supernatural power of God is blown on us, we get swept up into a tornado of transformation.“* – Lisa Whittle, I Want God

Our soul longs for the **texture** of God.

How bad to you want it?

*But Jacob said, “****I will not let you go unless you bless me****.” And he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.” Genesis 32:24-28*

Are you willing to wrestle with God until you get it?

Rodney “Gypsy” Smith was born on the outskirts of London in 1860. Gypsy crisscrossed the Atlantic Ocean forty-five times, preaching the gospel to millions of people, and it’s been said that he never preached without someone surrendering their life to the lordship of Jesus Christ. Gypsy revealed “his secret” to a delegation of revival seekers who sought an audience with him.

*“Go home, lock yourself in your room, kneel down in the middle of your floor.* ***Draw a chalk mark all around yourself*** *and ask God to start the revival inside that chalk mark. When He answers your prayer the revival will be on.”* – Gypsy Smith

*“Revival begins when you* ***draw a circle around yourself*** *and make sure everything in that circle is right with God*.” – Ann Graham Lotz

Revival is an **inside** **out** process. In other words, Revival “out there” has to start right **here**.

*“That is the beauty of a relationship with God: It always starts with the personal. God did corporately what He did first within each of them. It is why we must seek a revival of the soul before we seek a large-scale spiritual awakening. God is about consuming single hearts for Him one at a time and then bringing those hearts together to do something extraordinary. But revival always begins with one.”*

– Lisa Whittle, I Want God

*“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.” “I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity.”* Jeremiah 29:13-14

Revival is as **unique** as you are. God knows exactly what you need. Your revival experience is unique to you.

Revival is sustained through **spiritual** **disciplines**.

The motivation for our discipline is our love for Him.

The catalyst for revival is **consecration**.

*"It is the fresh act of dedicating yourself - or your home, a relationship, a job, your sexuality, whatever needs God's grace - deliberately and intentionally to Jesus, bringing it fully into his kingdom and under his rule."* – John Eldridge, Moving Mountains

Consecration includes **confession**.

*"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty."* Isaiah 6:5

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;*

*according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.*

*Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

*Psalm 51:1-17*

Jesus consecrated Himself for us.

*“The richest, fullest life our earth has ever known was the life of Jesus Christ. No one ever had within himself such complete satisfactions, such assured convictions, and such settled peace as He. Rich and full as His life was to Himself, it was the richest, fullest life to others that has ever blessed humanity…He made an absolute surrender of Himself. He was in constant communion with His father and he drowned out all the competing voices*.” – James Hastings, The Great Texts of the Bible

Jesus postured Himself in a lowly, humble way in order to purchase us and set us apart. If we want a revival, we **posture** ourselves differently. When we want God first and most, we take on a posture of humility that begs him for change.

**What is your posture?** Do you want it? Will you seek it? Will you draw a circle and ask God for it? Will you pray until you get it?

It is our need, His desire. **Revival out there … starts right here**!

*For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.* Psalm 86:5

*The high and lofty one who lives in eternity, the Holy One, says this: “I live in the high and holy place with those whose spirits are contrite and humble. I restore the crushed spirit of the humble and revive the courage of those with repentant hearts.* Isaiah 57:15