

## PREPARING FOR THE REVIVAL WE NEED

**Psalm 85:6 2 Chronicles 7:14**

**Introduction:** It seems that today's churches have some wrong goals and dreams for what today's churches need is not more members, not more money, not larger buildings, not a family life center, not more money given for missions, not more visitation but - **REPENTANCE AND REVIVAL!**

Face it, churches are comfortable in this country of ours and are complacent. The majority of Southern Baptist Churches are either at a plateau or they are declining. Churches are uneasy, ill at ease, facing difficulties. Pastors and staff members are being terminated at an alarming rate. Church staff cannot find members who are willing to teach or work in some area of the church programs. Nobody seems willing to commit themselves. Church activities are dull and boring.

Revival = RE - means "again" "vive" means to live, therefore "revival" means to live again, to come back to life. Revival is not the town drunk getting saved so much as it is God's people coming back to Him.

### **I. IS REVIVAL WORKED UP OR PRAYED DOWN?**

1. Do churches need to get a famous revival team to come in and "give" a revival?
2. When Elijah gathered the prophets of Baal together around an altar and then called fire down from heaven, Elijah, himself, had gathered the wood!
3. So do we work as if revival depends upon us or do we PRAY as if everything depended upon God?

### **II. IS REVIVAL "BREAKING IN" OR "BREAKING OUT?"**

1. Revival does not start outside the church! Revival must get hold of God's people first!
2. Remember Jonah and Nineveh? What was holding up revival for Nineveh?
3. God's people must be renewed FIRST!
4. Do you want revival enough to pray for it?
  - Draw a circle around yourself and pray for God to bring revival within that circle.
  - Write down all your unconfessed sins, then confess them one by one.
5. Who is satisfied with his/her present relationship with God? Fix it and revival will come to YOU.

### **III. IS REVIVAL "SOMETHING?" OR "SOMEONE?"**

1. What do YOU want out of a revival?
  - Numbers?
  - Entertainment?
2. Revival is NOT seeking God's will! It is seeking **God!**

3. When you find God, then YOU will have revival!

4. If YOU want to see revival, then it must start with YOU!

**CONCLUSION:**

If disobedient members will straighten up..

If gossipers will shut up..

If lukewarm church members will fire up..

If sleeping church members will wake up..

If depressed members will look up..

If dishonest members will "fess" up..

If discouraged members will cheer up..

If disgruntled church members will sweeten up..

If all soldiers of Christ will stand up..

If all Church Members will pray up..

**THEN REVIVAL WILL COME!**