



**MEET GOD
GROW IN FAITH
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**Revival– The Sleeping Giant
Sermon Discussion Questions – March, 5 2023**

Scripture Passages:

1 John 4:8 (NIV)--⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

2 Chronicles 6:40-42 (NIV)--⁴⁰ "Now, my God, may your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. ⁴¹ "Now arise, O LORD God, and come to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. May your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, may your saints rejoice in your goodness. ⁴² O LORD God, do not reject your anointed one. Remember the great love promised to David your servant."

2 Chronicles 7:1 (NIV)--¹ When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)--¹⁴ if my people, (specifically a tribe; figuratively a flock) who are called by my name, will humble themselves (which means literally to “bend the knee”) and pray and seek (strive after) my face and turn from their wicked ways,(figuratively means a course of life) then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 12:6-7 (NIV) --⁶The leaders of Israel and the king humbled themselves and said, "The LORD is just." ⁷ When the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, this word of the LORD came to Shemaiah: "Since they have humbled themselves, I will not destroy them but will soon give them deliverance.

Warm Up:

This week we are kicking off the series "Revival." What is your understanding of revival? Is it something that you are used to or a foreign idea?

Discussion:

1. At the beginning of his message Pastor Tom told a story about a clown warning a town about a fire coming their way but nobody took him seriously even though his message was imperative. If you were one of the people hearing the clown's message would you take his advice? Or are you more likely to believe it is a part of his act?

2. To start off this series there is a conversation about how the world sees The Church as the clown in the story. Do you see this in our culture? How do you believe The Church is received in the world we live in?

Tom offers two potential reasons for The Church's loss of respect in our culture.

- "We have been so busy arguing amongst ourselves, the world no longer cares"
- "We have compromised beliefs and no longer have a defining truth"

Do you see these in your own experience? If so, where?

3. When we speak about revival, what do you think of? What are some definitions of revival?

4. Pastor Tom explains that there is an excitement to the revival that we see in places such as Asbury University, where students gathered for more than 400 hours in praise and worship. He then offered this definition of revival from Charles Finney, "A revival is nothing else than a new beginning of obedience to God." Where in your life have you experienced revival?

5. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. What does this passage have to tell us about the heart of revival?

6. Read 2 Chronicles 12:6-7. God brings deliverance to his people because they have humbled themselves before Him. What do you need deliverance from that you can set down in humility today?

Next Steps:

In this message Pastor Tom makes three statements about revival.

“The position of revival is humility and seeking.”

“The response of revival is repentance.”

“The reward of revival is forgiveness and healing.”

Take some time with each of these statements. Seek God and his heart for you. Allow God to pinpoint the areas in your life that you need to repent. Allow Him to offer you forgiveness and healing in your own story and heart.

Feel free to use these questions to guide your reflection or conversation.

What does it look like for you to position yourself in humility and seeking?

Are there areas of your life that you need to return to the Lord, where he is not first? Actively give those areas to God and turn towards Him.

What forgiveness and healing do you believe God is offering you today?