

REVIVE

APRIL 27/28, 2019

WHAT'S YOUR/OUR TEMPERATURE

REVELATION 3:14-20; HEBREWS 4:11-13
SENIOR PASTOR BYRON MACDONALD

“Is not My Word like fire, declares the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?” – Jeremiah 23:29

The importance of spiritual temperature:

- Jesus assesses the spiritual temperature of our lives, Revelation 3:15-16:
 - Cold; those who profess no commitment to, or desire for, Jesus.
 - Hot; on fire for Jesus, living with Him and for Him with passion flowing out of their loving relationship with Him, vv. 15,20.
 - Lukewarm; those who profess faith in Christ but live spiritually dull lives.
 - > They live without real commitment to Christ.
 - > They live without a real relationship with Christ.
 - > They live without real passion for Christ.
 - > They live without any real mission for Christ.
 - > They live as if they have never really needed a Savior and Lord.
- Jesus is actively seeking to come into people's lives and ignite them with passion, v. 20.

The Holy Spirit, using the Word of God, fuels the passions of REVIVE, Hebrews 4:11-16.

- The Holy Spirit makes the Bible living and active in the lives of those who seek Jesus by faith through the Bible, vv. 12.
- The Holy Spirit, using the Bible, enables the true intentions of the heart to be recognized, and the right intentions of the heart to be directed to the will of God, vv. 12-13.
- The Holy Spirit and the Word always lead a person to a passionate need and desire for Jesus, vv. 14-16.

P A S T O R ' S C H A T

We had such a wonderful Easter season together with *Pageant of Our Lord*, Good Friday, and Resurrection Sunday. I can't remember a time of better spirit throughout a season as we had this year. Each of these efforts takes a massive investment of time and energy by staff and church volunteers working together. Literally hundreds of people volunteer, to give their best to the Lord, to make this happen. I won't use names as there are too many to name and each one was important to the effort and results. Psalm 133:1 says, "*Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in unity!*" I have certainly sensed God's pleasure in this.

All of this leads to great and humble anticipation as we begin our REVIVE series together this week. Everything we do in life, as individuals and a church family, is a result of God's invitation. In Isaiah 57:14-15 God promises, "*And it shall be said, 'Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from My people's way.' For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.'*" That is the purpose of REVIVE, to remove every obstacle from our seeking God together. We want to

seek Him together with a contrite and lowly heart.

I think we sometimes miss how important our moving together is to our seeing God move in our midst. Sometimes we are too individual in our thinking and planning. God's plans are always to bring us together and move in power through unity. It is our love for one another that is the power of our witness to the world, John 13:34-35. That means you are important to the moving of God in our midst through REVIVE.

Make sure you get the REVIVE book and join a group so we can take this journey together. Each week has five daily focus times for devotions, weekly group discussion guides, and goes deeper into the key truths from the weekend sermons. I am hopeful to see what God will do through this and how it will compel RHCC into the fullness of God's plans for us. You can sign up at rhccrevive.com or on the patio this weekend. I have always wanted to see a movement of God so significant that His moving and glory is the only explanation and result. Let's pray, "Lord, REVIVE us – and start with me!" We know God will hear us because He is the One who invites us together.

~ Senior Pastor Byron MacDonald