

Week 1:

Urgent & Dependent



Questions

1. Read Psalm 85:4-7. What is God teaching you? What themes are you seeing? What is God asking of you so that you can be revived in your love for Him?
2. Read 1 Samuel 17:44-51. Identify the Goliaths or battles where you need this same posture of “dependence and urgency.” What could urgency in this spiritual battle look like for you? What might total dependence on God look like today in your battles for your heart, your family, your church and city?
3. Which of these two is more difficult for you and why? A posture of **dependence** on God alone or daily working with **urgent** action for Christ’s Kingdom? Why?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:57. You are living in a spiritual battlefield. As we pursue revival in our hearts, we are stepping into God’s plan for spiritual victory. If God would give you full victory in one situation of your life, what situation would you want to see God’s victory in?
5. (Day 3) The word “revive” is built from two Latin words: “re” and “vive.” Put together, Re-Vive, means “re-life”, or “again-life” or “to live again.” Read Romans 10:9-11. Have you ever declared Jesus as your Lord in this way? Do you know for sure that your soul has been “born again” into this better life and eternal life? If so, describe when you believed in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins?
6. What are your thoughts about a Fifth Great Awakening happening in our lifetimes? It would look like so many Americans being passionate about their faith that TV shows, school curriculums and shared values would all move toward Christ. It would be the result of millions of new Christians and millions of awakened Christians. Based on Scripture, what can we do to join God in a Fifth Great Awakening? How can we join God now as David joined God to defeat Goliath and revive Israel’s faith?
7. How is your daily time in the “40 Days” devotional going? What has been your biggest challenge? Any tips or tricks that are helping you? If you are comfortable with it, start a group text to encourage each other in the daily devotional.
8. Read Matthew 22:37-38. What role are you commanded to play in drawing closer to God? Does this command only apply when you feel like it? Does this command only apply when you can see God working and doing His part, or does it always apply?



Scripture References

Psalm 85:4a, 6, 7a (NIV)

Restore us again, God our Savior, Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? Show us your unfailing love, Lord,

1 Samuel 17:44-51 selected (NIV)

“David said to the Philistine, ‘You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give you into our hands.’ As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him.

Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground... David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine’s sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.”

1 Corinthians 15:57 (NIV)

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV)

Jesus replied “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest command.”

Takeaways

- At its simplest, Revival is you receiving your love for God above all else.
- Pursue revival as if your life depends on it.
- Work for Revival like it all depends on you; Pray for Revival like it all depends on God.
- God commands us to pursue Revival.

Jesus replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all you mind.” This is the first and greatest commandment.

Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV)

- Why Revival Matters: We either choose Repentance that leads to Revival or we continue in comfort that leads to Ruin. Death, pain and loss lie at the end of the road of self.
- What You Must Do to Experience Revival:
 1. Commit to love God above all else.
 2. Prove your commitment to God with daily times when you tune out all distractions to elevate Him and focus on His Words.
- If you really want to love God more, commit to spend at least 15 minutes a day connecting with him in this devotional, for the next 40 days.



REVIVALS IN SCRIPTURE AND HISTORY

Calamity from Forgetting God	Called to Repent by	Faithful Remnant	Revival	Era	People
A pending global flood due to all people of earth being completely overcome by evil, continually	Noah	Noah's Family	God delivers Noah's family through Noah's obedience over 50 years	Thousands of years Before Christ (B.C.)	All humanity
Slavery in Egypt	Moses	The nation obeyed God during the Passover, leaving all they knew to follow God out of Egypt	The Exodus	1,300 years Before Christ (B.C.)	Israel
Goliath, Philistines invading to kill all men, enslave women and children	Prophet Samuel	David, Samuel, David's "mighty men"	Goliath's defeat and subsequent Reign of King David	1,000 years Before Christ (B.C.)	Israel
Plot to use government to kill all Jewish people	Esther, Mordecai	Jews who fasted and prayed	Jewish nation spared	473 years Before Christ (B.C.)	Israel
Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab oppose God's people	Nehemiah, Ezra	Nehemiah and all who rebuilt the wall	Walls of Jerusalem rebuilt, reignites worship at Temple	444 years Before Christ (B.C.)	Israel
Global Sin, Death, and Separation from God	Jesus, John the Baptist and all preceding prophets	Jesus and His imperfect disciples	Restoration of Relationship with God for all who believe	0 years Before Christ (B.C.)	All people, every tribe, tongue, and nation
Global Sin, Death, and Separation from God	Peter, Paul, the Apostles	New Testament Church	Kingdom of God on earth expands geographically	30 to 100 A.D. (After Christ)	All people, every tribe, tongue, and nation

REVIVALS IN SCRIPTURE AND HISTORY

Calamity from Forgetting God	Called to Repent by	Faithful Remnant	Revival	Era	People
Corrupted forms of “church,” oppressive governments	Martin Luther, Huss, Wycliffe, Reformers	Protestant Christians	Protestant Reformation, also known as “the Enlightenment”	1500's to 1700's	Western Civilization, which has now benefited all people
British rule and oppression of worship	John Wesley, George Whitefield	Christians in the Colonial America	The Great Awakening	1700's	American Colonies
Slave trading, pirating, profiteering	Charles Finney, Stone-Campbell	Sincere Christians in the U.S.	The Second Great Awakening	early 1800's	Early United States
The sin of slavery	D.L. Moody, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Frederick Douglass	Abolitionist Christians in the U.S.	The Third Great Awakening	1855 to early 1900's	Civil War U.S.
Aftermath of World War 2	Billy Graham, Elisabeth Elliott, Bill Bright, Chuck Smith	“Evangelical” Christians in the U.S.	The Fourth Great Awakening	1950's to 1980's	Cold War U.S.
Division, Deception, Inviting evil in; Unraveling of post WW2 order; Moral uncertainty; Existentialism	You, me and others who choose God now	Those few Christians who will choose God over comfort, distraction, and self	Will there be a Fifth Great Awakening?	2026 to ?	Present Day (Culture War U.S.)

NEGATIVE EXAMPLES OF REVIVAL NOT CHOSEN

Calamity from Forgetting God	Called to Repent by	Faithful Remnant	Instead of Revival, the Formerly Christian People Chose	Era	People
Discontent with record prosperity, “God is dead” - Nietzsche, Karl Marx invents a better way for society without God: Communism	Dietrich Bonhoeffer, other Christian leaders	Did not choose God - distracted by material wealth and personal comfort	Unfathomable suffering and evil. World Wars, Nazi Party, Fascism, Anti-Jewish hatred, genocide of millions, war deaths of tens of millions more	1880's to 1940's	Germany
Class Warfare, pitting the “have nots” against the “haves.” The luring lies of Lenin and Stalin - give us power, and we will give you wealth & comfort	Georges Florovsky and other Christian leaders	Did not choose God - distracted by material wealth and personal comfort	Bolshevik Revolution; Churches destroyed; Communism; Millions of Jews killed; Millions of Christians killed; at least 60 million civilians killed by government	1880's to 1990	Russia / USSR
Barbarian enemies physically destroying, enslaving, or subjugating	Old Testament Prophets	Did not choose God - distracted by material wealth and personal comfort	Faith placed in human wealth or human ideas, leading to death, destruction, loss	Old Testament; repeated times	Israel

REVIVAL - FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES - OR NOT

How distracted from God are you?	Will you call yourself to repent?	Will you be part of the faithful remnant?	Will you pray daily for Revival?	Era	People
What calamity has resulted - or will result - because you are choosing to live distracted from God?	Will you choose - for these 40 Days - to stop living distracted from God?	Will you lead those around you to be part of the Faithful Remnant or part of the Distracted Ruin?	Will you commit to 15 minutes a day for 40 Days in revival? Will you pray daily for Revival? Or, will you allow the drift of distraction to lull you and your loved ones into ruin?	Today	Your people, family, city, and nation