

PREPARING FOR PERSONAL REVIVAL

This is the moment for self-examination.
Without it we are wasting our time with God.

God is eager to manifest

His revival presence and power in every generation. But we must take steps for the release of His fullness in our midst.

On the eve of their passage over the Jordan into the Promise land, Joshua charged the children of Israel to prepare their hearts: "...Sanctify yourselves: for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you" (Joshua 3:5).

The Psalmist understood the importance of spiritual preparation for revival: "Righteousness shall go before Him and shall set us in the way of His steps" (Psalm 85:13).

Ezra realized the great need for preparation for revival (Ezra 9:5-10).

The questions that follow are designed to reveal specific areas of spiritual need in our lives. These areas must be dealt with in preparation for personal revival (awakening)..

Action Steps

1. *Pray* the prayer of the psalmist: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23, 24).
2. *Be totally honest* as you answer each question.
3. *Agree with God* about each need He reveals in your life. Confess each sin, with the willingness to make it right and forsake it.
4. *Praise God* for cleansing and forgiveness.
5. *Renew* your mind and *rebuild* your life through meditation and practical application of the Word of God.

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6. *Review* these questions periodically to remain sensitive to your need for ongoing revival.

Genuine Salvation

(II Corinthians 5:17)

- a. Was there ever a time I my life that I genuinely repented of my sin?
- b. Was there ever a time that I placed all my trust in Jesus Christ alone to save me?
- c. Was there ever a time in my life that I completely surrendered to Jesus Christ as the Master and Lord of my life?

God's Word

(Psalm 119:97;140)

- a. Do I love to read & mediate on the word of God?
- b. Are my personal devotions consistent and meaningful?
- c. Do I practically apply God's word to my everyday life?

Humility

(Isaiah 57:15)

- a. Am I quick to recognize and agree with God in confession when I have sinned?
- b. Am I quick to admit to others when I am wrong?
- c. Do I rejoice when others are praised and my accomplishments go unnoticed by men?
- d. Do I esteem all others as better than myself?

Obedience

(Heb. 13:17; I Sam. 15:22)

- a. Do I consistently obey what I know God wants me to do?
- b. Do I consistently obey the human authorities God has placed over my life?

Pure Heart

(I John 1:9)

- a. Do I confess my sin?
- b. Do I keep "short sin accounts" with God?
- c. Am I willing to give up all sin for God?

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Clear Conscience

(Acts 24:16)

- a. Do I consistently seek forgiveness from those I wrong or offend?
- b. Is my conscience clear with every man? Can I honestly say, "There is no one I have ever wronged in any way and not gone back to them and sought their forgiveness and made it right?"

Priorities

(Matthew 6:33)

- a. Does my schedule reveal that God is first in my life?
- b. Does my checkbook reveal that God is first in my life?
- c. Next to my relationship with God, is my relationship with my family my highest priority?

Values

(Colossians 3:12)

- a. Do I love what God loves and hates what God hates?
- b. Do I value highly the things that please God (e.g.,

giving, witnessing to lost souls, prayer studying His Word.)?

- c. Are my affections and goals fixed on eternal values?

Sacrifice

(Philippians 3:7, 8)

- a. Am I willing to sacrifice whatever is necessary to see God move in my life and church (time, convenience, comfort, reputation, pleasure, television, movie, etc.)?
- b. Is my life characterized by the genuine sacrifice for the cause of Christ?

Spirit Control

(Gal.5:22-25; Eph. 5:18-21)

- a. Is Jesus to be Lord of every area of my life?
- b. Is the Holy Spirit to "fill" (control) my life each day?
- c. Is there consistent evidence of the "fruit of the Spirit" being produced in my life?

Motives

(Acts 5:29; Matthew 10:28)

- a. Am I more concerned

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about what God thinks
about my life than about
what others think?

b. Would I pray, read my
Bible, give, and serve as
much if nobody but God
ever noticed?

“First Love”

(Philippians 1:21,23)

a. Am I much in love with
Jesus as I have ever been?

b. Am I thrilled with Jesus,
filled with His joy and
peace, making Him the
continual object of my
love?

Moral Purity

(Ephesians 5:3,4)

a. Do I keep my mind free
from books, magazines, or
entertainment that could
stimulate fantasizing or
thoughts that are morally
pure?

b. Are my conversation and
behavior pure and above
reproach?

Forgiveness

(Colossians 3:12,13)

a. Do I seek to resolve

conflicts in relationships as
soon as possible?

b. Am I quick to forgive
those who wrong me or hurt
me?

Sensitivity

(Matthew 5:23,24)

a. Am I sensitive to the
conviction and promptings
of God’s Spirit?

b. Am I quick to respond in
humility and obedience to
the conviction and
promptings of the Holy
Spirit?

Evangelism

(Rom. 9:3; Luke 24:46, 48)

a. Do I have a burden for
lost souls?

b. Do I consistently witness
for Christ?

Prayer

(I Timothy 2:1)

a. Do I pray specifically,
fervently, and faithfully for
revival in my life, my
church, and our nation? b.

Am I faithful in praying for
the needs of others?