

WEEK ONE

# SMALL GROUP RESOURCES

We have started our 21 Days of Prayer for Revival focusing on Personal Revival. Even if God does not work in revival power in our nation as we believe that he will, we can still personally experience revival in our relationship with God. Community revival begins with individual revival.

Study the passage carefully but allow sufficient time for the prayer exercises at the end. These 21 days are all about prayer for revival so make sure your group actually prays together.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share a time in your life when you really felt close to God and had a deep desire to obey him. What brought this about? What did this look like for you? Did anything special happen?
2. Read Ephesians 3:14-21.
3. Paul is praying from prison for the Ephesians. 3:14-15 sets the context for his prayer. What do these verses tell us about Paul's passion and beliefs as he approaches God in this prayer for revival for the Ephesian church?
4. Have you seen God do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (3:20). Share a few stories. What do you think may happen if God works in revival in your life? What do you think may happen if God works in revival in your church?
5. What do you think might be preventing God working in greater power in your life and in your church? If God is able to work so powerfully (3:20), why do we not see more of "his power at work within us" (3:20)?
6. Paul has two major prayer points for the Ephesians (3:16-19). Can you summarise what they are? Don't worry if you can't make sense of everything in this Scripture. We cover this passage in Day 5 and Day 6. (By all means look at the devotions for these days if you want some help.)
7. Personal revival might seem a long way away for you. What do you think is the next step forward in drawing you closer to Jesus and more willing to follow him?

## PRAYER FOR REVIVAL

1. Have someone pray Paul's prayer aloud over the group twice. If possible, use a translation that is easy to understand.
2. Together pray for God's powerful work in your church family.
3. Divide into pairs. Share again your responses to question 7 and pray for each other.



WEEK TWO

# SMALL GROUP RESOURCES

One of the challenges we have in praying and preparing for community revival is that most of us have not personally experienced it. We live in a secular and materialistic society and we are surrounded and influenced by our culture. It's difficult for us to see how this would ever change. It's difficult to see our community coming alive spiritually.

This study is designed to increase our faith that God can revive our community.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time when everything seemed hopeless and then God worked in power. What happened?
2. Read Ezekiel 37:1-14
3. Ezekiel saw a valley full of bleached bones. What did these dry bones represent to Ezekiel (37:11)? Have you ever seen such a scene? Try to picture it. What are some adjectives that could be used to describe this scene?
4. What aspects of our community/culture make it feel spiritually like dry bones? Why is it so hard to imagine how God could move in revival power? What are some of the barriers to community revival?
5. What happened to the dry bones in Ezekiel's vision? How did it happen? Do you think there is any significance in the two-stage prophecy? How was this prophecy fulfilled for Israel?
6. How would this vision have helped Ezekiel? How did it help those who read this prophecy? What did God want them to do as they waited for God's powerful work?
7. What is the message of this Scripture for us? What is God saying to you through this Scripture?

## PRAYER FOR REVIVAL

1. Have someone read the Scripture again aloud as the group pictures their friends and family and church and community.
2. Share together what you would love to see God do in your community. Share what revival would look like for you.
3. Pray together specifically for these things.



## WEEK THREE

# SMALL GROUP RESOURCES

We have asked God for personal revival and greater intimacy. We have looked at what community revival will entail. What else can we do as we wait for God's revival? G. Campbell Morgan was a well-known British Bible teacher and evangelist who lived at the beginning of the last century. Here is what he said about revival: "Revival cannot be organized, but we can set our sails to catch the wind from heaven when God chooses to blow upon His people once again." We cannot make revival happen, but we can "set the sails." We can prepare the way. We can get ready. This week we are considering how to prepare for revival. Probably the most frequently quoted verse on getting ready for revival is 2 Chronicles 7:14.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time in your life when you were really desperate in some way. How did it feel? How did it impact your life? How often do you feel desperate like that for God?
2. Read 2 Chronicles 7:11-16.
3. In the Old Testament, most of God's warnings about punishment and promises of blessing were couched in physical terms. How does this play out in this passage?
4. What form do God's warnings and promises take now? How is prosperous Australia presently experiencing God's punishment of our national sin and rebellion? In what ways will God bless as he revives us? What will change in our culture and life when God heals our land (7:15)?
5. In this Scripture, God's promises about revival centre around the role of the temple (7:11, 12, 15, 16). The temple represented the place on earth where heaven and earth met. Now we Christians are God's temple (1 Cor. 3:16). We are the place where God specially lives on earth. What therefore is our role in God's working to revive our land?
6. God calls for four overlapping actions from a people suffering his absence or judgment:
  - Humble yourself
  - Pray like crazy
  - Desperately seek God's face
  - Turn from your wicked ways
7. We can "set the sails" for revival by these actions. Briefly discuss what might be involved in each call to action.
8. What is God saying to you through this Scripture?

## PRAYER FOR REVIVAL

1. Have three different people slowly read 2 Chron. 7:14 aloud to the group. Pause between each reading. Let this promise wash over you.
2. Recognising that you together are God's temple and he is present, spend time together confessing sin, expressing your desperation, and praying for revival.
3. Divide into pairs. Pray for each other – that God will bring freedom from sin and will pour out his spiritual blessing.

