



# REVIVE US

## A HEART READY FOR REVIVAL

### Personal Study Guide

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Adapted from *Revive Us: A Heart Ready for Revival* by Robby Gallaty

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## LOOK UPWARD

### A Correct Understanding of God

**Read Isaiah 6:1-8. Describe how Isaiah saw the Lord in verses 1-4.**

**What are the implications of serving a holy God?**

Note the symbolism the vision uses to reveal a correct understanding of who God is:

- **AUTHORITY:** “I saw the Lord seated” (vs. 1)
- **MAJESTY:** “on a . . . throne” (vs. 1)
- **WORTH:** “high and lofty” (vs. 1)
- **GLORY:** “the hem of His robe filled the temple” (vs. 1)
- **PRESENCE:** “the temple was filled with smoke” (vs. 4)

**Why might we struggle to have a correct understanding of God’s unrivaled sovereignty in our lives?**

Is He Lord over your life? Is He calling the *shots*? Are you doing things His way? Is He the center of your life? That only happens when you get a true glimpse of God.

## LOOK INWARD

### An Honest Assessment of Self

**Reread Isaiah 6:5. How did Isaiah respond to this clear vision of God?**

**Why do we need a correct view of God to have a correct view of self?**

Until Isaiah saw God for who He is, he couldn't see himself for what he was. Being in God's presence helped Isaiah see his unworthiness.

**If Isaiah's encounter with God ended with the words in verse 5 alone, why would God still be worthy of our worship and praise?**

Because God is holy, we are responsible to Him for every sinful action, every careless word, and every evil thought.

**Note:** Isaiah didn't cry "Woe to everyone else . . ." He cried out, "Woe is me." (vs. 5)

**Why is it sometimes easier for us to point out the sin in other people's lives than it is to see our own?**

**Why is it wrong to decide who we are before God by comparing ourselves to other people?**

Human nature presents obstacles to seeing ourselves correctly.

**Can revival take place without an honest self-assessment? Explain.**

**Read 1 John 1:7-10. In light of the holiness of God, what honest self-assessment do we each need to make?**

Revival starts individually. When you stand before God, He will not compare you to your spouse, your parents, your coworkers, your neighbors, or your friends. He will compare you to His Son, who is the epitome of perfection.

**Reread Isaiah 6:6-7. Where do we see the gospel in these verses?**

**What honest self-assessment could Isaiah make when this event took place?**

God had every right to destroy Isaiah, but He saved him. The only way a sinful human being can come into the presence of a holy God is to be cleansed of all unrighteousness.

### **Personal Revival Principle**

*If you cover your sin, God will uncover it. But if you uncover or confess your sin, God will cover it with the blood of His Son Jesus.*

## LOOK OUTWARD

### A Clear Picture of the Mission

**Read Isaiah 6:8. How did Isaiah respond to the clear vision of God and himself that he received?**

**Has true revival taken place if it does not result in missional living? Why?**

The type of forgiveness Isaiah received and we receive demands a response. Isaiah had seen and felt the mercy of God, and it changed his entire life.

**When Jesus is Lord of your life, you'll go wherever He sends you and do whatever He ask you. What is your gut reaction to that statement?**

**How does it scare you?**

**How does it excite you?**

Because it is the Lord's responsibility to protect us, we don't have to worry about a thing – we just have to fix our eyes on Jesus, with a clear picture of His mission.

**How would your life change if you truly walked in full assurance of the following statement: *Because God's concern is to protect and direct my way, my only concern is to know and do God's will?***

True revival happens when we gain a right view of God, a right view of self, and a heart for the world. Knowing who God is calls us into action for His name. When we see who God is, we must respond. We must go, full and filled from the forgiveness we have received in Jesus Christ.

### **Personal Revival Principle**

*We don't experience revival because we've been content to live without it.*

## Personal Study 2

# AN OUTPOURING OF POWER

We are taught to believe anything is possible with determination and positivity. There is value in setting our minds to goals and working hard to achieve them. At the same time, though, immense danger comes when we ignore the greater truth: in and of ourselves, we are powerless.

**Read Ephesians 2:1-5. How can we know we are powerless to bring about spiritual change in our lives?**

We need to be realistic about our spiritual capacity.

**Name a situation where you work hard to strategize human solutions instead of inviting the Lord to enact His power.**

To truly understand revival, we need a reminder of Christ's greatness and our poverty, His power and our weakness, His ability and our ineptness.

## WE ARE POWERLESS TO BRING ABOUT REVIVAL

**Read Mark 9:14-18, 21-22. What does the length of time this family had suffered reveal about the power they had to overcome this affliction on their own?**

This likely wasn't the first time the father had sought help for this child. The fundamental problem here was that the child couldn't help himself, he could do nothing to rid himself of the evil spirit. His parents were similarly incapable. And, as the disciples quickly learned, they also lacked the power needed to change the boy's life.

**When have you faced a situation where you realized you were powerless to bring about change in your own strength? How did you respond?**

Belief in the dreams of a better life and the hard work and determination to make it happen would never be enough. We will never experience any real power if we trust in ourselves.

**What are some ways we might be tempted to seek revival through human strength instead of God's power?**

## **WE MUST RELY COMPLETELY ON JESUS TO EXPERIENCE REVIVAL**

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**Read Mark 9:19-20. What do these verses teach you about Christ's heart for people?**

**Why couldn't the disciples do anything to change the boy's situation? Jesus knew the disciples were powerless people. So why was he upset that they hadn't helped the boy receive new life?**

**Read Mark 9:28-29. What do Jesus's words, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer," teach you about how revival takes place?**

It would be a mistake to take Jesus's words as some sort of formulaic, demon-busting one-two punch. Instead of trusting in God's power, the disciples had shifted their faith to themselves. *God's work must be done in God's power.* On our own, we can't fix the brokenness we see. We will only experience the power and love of Christ to bring revival if we rely on Him completely.

**What behaviors might show a person is desperately dependent on Jesus's power to enact change?**

Jesus wasn't giving the disciples a formula for revival. Salvation is a gift of grace, not works (Ephesians 2:8-9). We have a choice about whether we will depend on the Lord to produce spiritual renewal in us, or like the disciples in Mark 9, shift our faith to our own abilities.

**Read Mark 6:7-13. How might this success have served as a hindrance to the disciples as they tried to heal the demon-possessed boy in Mark 9?**

Selfish pride and divine power cannot share the same stage.

**What are some successes in church life that might make believers become prideful?  
How have you seen this happen?**

### **Personal Revival Principle**

*The problem is never with God; it is always with us.*

*The barrier to revival is you.*

## REVIVAL IS POSSIBLE FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE

The child couldn't heal himself, the disciples couldn't cast out the demon in their own strength, and the father and the crowd represent a third example of inadequacy: the father couldn't believe without Jesus helping his unbelief.

**Read Mark 9: 22-27. What indicates the man's disbelief? How do we often respond to God similarly in prayer?**

Sometimes God chooses not to answer our prayers and petitions in the ways we desire, but this never comes from a lack of ability. When we pray, we ought to affirm and agree with God's prerogative to act according to His will. But we never have to doubt God's ability to answer our prayers.

**How did the man respond to Jesus's rebuke? How are we called to respond in similar situations?**

The father immediately recognized his deficiency and sought the Lord's help and asked Jesus to fill what was lacking. Even faith is a gift from God for those who seek Him. We are called to depend on the Lord to save us from our sin, empower us for ministry, and revive us along the way so that we might walk in ever-increasing faith. Jesus is the only One who can truly transform our lives and our world to make us whole.

**Do you believe God can bring revival to you in this day and time? What doubt might keep you from believing that? Confess it to God and invite Him to enact revival in His power.**

**Do you believe God can bring revival in your local church? What doubt might keep you from believing that? Confess it to God and invite Him to enact revival in His power.**

**Do you believe God can bring revival in your community, country, and even around the world? What doubt might keep you from believing that? Confess it to God and invite Him to enact revival in His power.**

God doesn't call us to work harder and develop ingenious strategies so that we might change the world; He calls us to desperately trust Him to reveal His power in us, through us, and around us.

### **Personal Revival Principle**

*When you become a believer in Jesus, God doesn't add a burden – He adds power to live.*

# SILENCE AND SOLITUDE

## ESTABLISHING A RHYTHM

If you're going to look upward, inward, and outward to receive an outpouring of God's power in your life, you're going to have to spend some time in silence and solitude before Him. Being alone or quiet may not be a normal practice for you. But when you set aside the norm for a time, you can better engage with God and grow in relationship with Him.

### FIVE MINUTES

This week, get started in the spiritual practice of silence and solitude. In the weeks to come, you'll continue establishing that new rhythm as you increase your time.

- 1. Determine a time you will commit to spend time alone with the Lord each day this week.** It won't come naturally. You must be intentional to seek moments of physical solitude and silence of heart.
- 2. Find a place where you can spend that time in silence and solitude.** Jesus had to climb a mountain to find solitude. You might have to go sit in your car or in your closet. But no matter what challenges you face, find that place – you need this time, and it's worth it.
- 3. Read one verse to direct your thoughts to who God is, such as Psalm 46:10 or Psalm 62:5.**
- 4. Be silent before the Lord for five minutes.** Silence isn't as much the absence of noise as it is an attitude of listening to God. You can be physically alone and still be distracted by the world's voice. So turn off your cell phone or, better yet, don't even take it with you. Be quiet before God and invite Him to speak to your heart.
- 5. At the end of that time, jot down the thoughts God impressed on you.** Use the next page to record them.
- 6. Repeat these steps each day this week.**

