

We Need a Revival Before a Revival



I listened to Venny Azzolini preach the other day, and he said something that caught my attention: "We need a Revival before we can have a Revival."

As Apostolic Pentecostals, we're fond of hosting revivals, a term we've appropriated to fit our worship style. Our revivals are spirited gatherings filled with songs of praise and usually accompanied by a visiting evangelist. We invite family and friends, hoping they might experience the joy of being baptized in Jesus' name and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost. While it's perfectly fine to perceive it this way, it's essential to understand that the essence of revival goes much deeper.

Revival, in its truest sense, means to awaken or restore life, to improve the condition or strength of something, and to instill passion, energy, stamina, and vigor. It's a reawakening of something that was once lifeless, sluggish, or lethargic. It's a resurgence of something that has declined or been forgotten. It's about making the old new again, as echoed in Corinthians 5:17.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV): Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

We see further evidence of the power of revival in the scriptures. Ezekiel 37:1-10 illustrates God's omnipotent ability to breathe life into what was once lifeless, and Isaiah 40:31 reassures us that those who wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength. Ephesians 5:14 provokes us to awaken from our spiritual slumber, promising that Christ shall shine light upon us when we do. Psalm 23:3 portrays the restorative power of the Lord, leading us on the path of righteousness.

So, before we can have a revival, we must first have a revival and let God renew us, individually and collectively. Our worship, prayers, and praise must come from a place of passion and sincerity, not just routine or habit. We must let go of any spiritual lethargy or complacency and allow the fire of the Holy Ghost to reignite our souls. And when we do, we will experience the true essence of revival - a transformational, life-changing encounter with the power of God. Let us pursue revival with faith, gratitude, and dedication, knowing that all things are made new in Christ.

X Tweets:

1. ❤️ **Ephesians 5:14:** "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." It's time to wake up and embrace His light! #Awakening #Jesus
2. 📖 **Ezekiel 37:1-10:** "The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones." God can breathe life into what feels dead. #Hope #Restoration
3. 🏃 **Isaiah 40:31:** "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles..." Trust in His timing for renewal! #Strength #Faith
4. 🌱 With God, all things become new! Let's allow Him to revive our spirits and lead us on the path of righteousness. #NewLife #Revival ✝️