

Lord Please Send A Revival
Part 5: A Revival Of Faith

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Recap

- Don't be hypocritical in prayer
- Our prayers are for God's ears only—not for public consumption
- Don't try to impress God with big words—it's not possible
- In your prayers:
 - Acknowledge that God is in charge of everything;
 - Know that God is the giver of everything
 - God forgives us and inspires us to forgive others
 - God does not create our problems—but God will see us through
 - God forgives us—we must forgive others—it is unfair to expect forgiveness from God—if we cannot forgive others

What Is A Revival?

- Revival: an improvement in the condition or strength of something; an instance of something becoming popular, active, or important again
- With this definition in mind, as we ask the Lord to send a revival—we are acknowledging that we need some things in our life to become important again
- Primarily due to the pandemic, we are need of a revival—and we are asking the Lord to send our revival!

Areas Of Revival

- Over the course of the following weeks we will be focusing our study of revival in the following areas:
- Revival Of Community
- Revival Of Relationships
- Revival Of Prayer
- Revival Of Faith
- Revival Of Commitment

Hebrews 11:1-3 (NLT)

¹Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. ²Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation.

³ By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

A Revival Of Our Faith

- As we ask the Lord for revival—one area that certainly needs to be revived is our faith.
- However, what exactly is faith?
- The dictionary defines faith as complete confidence in someone or something; strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof.
- Now, with regards to our understanding of faith—the first definition outlines our complete confidence in God—but it is the second definition that is problematic.
- This definition states that our faith is based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof—which is true in relation to our relying on spiritual insight in our confidence in God—because God does give us proof.
- There are times when our faith must go beyond physical proof—however, there are many times when God gives us concrete proof which substantiates our belief.

Hebrews 11:1

- Faith is the reality of what we hope for—and the evidence of things we cannot see.
- Our faith is being able to actualize what we hope (believe that God will do) for, and it becomes the proof of what we do not see.
- So, as we confidently believe that God will do something specific—we are able to walk in that confident hope even when we cannot see tangible proof—this is our faith.
- However, as we continue to wait on God to do what we believe that God will do—the longer we have to wait—the more our faith is subject to erosion.
- It is this erosion of faith that makes a revival necessary.
- So, as we ask God for this revival of faith—what necessary steps must we take?

2 Corinthians 5:7: (NRSV) ...for we walk by
faith and not by sight.

Walking By Faith

- One of the components in reviving our faith is learning to walk by faith.
- The text states that we must walk by faith—not by sight.
- This is the physical manifestation of Hebrews 11—it is walking in faith regardless of what we see.
- And, in order to do this we must have complete confidence in God—and our confidence is this—even if God does not do what I WANT God to do—I confidently believe that God will always do what's BEST for me.
- Faith is the understanding that I do not always know what is best for me...God does...and God will always work to do what is best for all of God's people...and our faith kicks in especially in times when we don't understand what God is doing.

Not By Sight

- As we ask for a revival of our faith—we must walk by our faith—and not our sight.
- When the Bible tells us not to walk by sight—it is not walking blindly—it is walking confidently—because we have faith in Who leads us.
- When we walk by faith we are not walking in blindness—we are walking with complete confidence in God—because it is God who leads us.
- However, in order to do this—we must fully embrace God's leading us and walking with God regardless of what we see.
- So, we are walking by God's sight...and not by our own sight...and this is where faith comes in.

Romans 10:17: So faith comes from hearing,
and hearing through the Word of Christ.

Acquiring Faith

- We have talked about the fact that we need a revision of our faith—but how do we acquire faith?
- Paul writes in Romans that faith comes through hearing about Christ—through the Word of God.
- Then, as we hear about Jesus—we also experience Jesus for ourselves—our faith is not acquired—it also grows.
- So, as we revise our faith—we must also revise and revive our study of God's Word, hearing of God's Word, and our faith—which is our belief in God's Word.
- Acquired, accumulated, and growing faith is an awesome thing—in fact look at what just a small amount of faith can accomplish.

Matthew 17:14-20

¹⁴ At the foot of the mountain, a large crowd was waiting for them. A man came and knelt before Jesus and said, ¹⁵ “Lord, have mercy on my son. He has seizures and suffers terribly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. ¹⁶ So I brought him to your disciples, but they couldn’t heal him.”

¹⁷ Jesus said, “You faithless and corrupt people! How long must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.” ¹⁸ Then Jesus rebuked the demon in the boy, and it left him. From that moment the boy was well.

¹⁹ Afterward the disciples asked Jesus privately, “Why couldn’t we cast out that demon?”

²⁰ “You don’t have enough faith,” Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.”

The Power Of Revived Faith

- Revived faith can do amazing things such as:
 - Casting out demons
 - Moving mountains
 - Achieving the impossible
- In the text, the disciples could not cast out a demon—because they did not have the faith.
- Jesus cast out the demon and then explained to them that faith will move mountains—and achieve the impossible.
- How much are we missing out on...simply because we won't ask God to revive our faith...and then exercise the revived faith God gives us?
- Start casting out demons, start moving mountains, and start achieving the impossible—just have faith in God!

Recap

- Faith is what we know God will do...even when we can't see it for ourselves.
- We walk by faith and not by sight—because God is leading us—so our sight is not important.
- We acquire, accumulate, and grow our faith by hearing and believing the Word of God—our study is absolutely necessary.
- Revised faith casts out demons, moves mountains, and achieves the impossible—all through Christ Jesus!