

Introduction:

- “And he said, *“My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”*” (Exodus 33:14, ESV)
- Isaiah 64:1-4, *8. Rend the heavens and come down / Both scriptures are about Presence!
- Last Wednesday: What is revival, who needs it and what does it look like?
 - It looks like lives changed, blind eyes open, dead raised. It look like the Presence of God encountering pain and injustice in people lives. It looks like Jesus encountering people in the Gospels. Jesus was going somewhere with all that good stuff. He was establishing and building His Kingdom. On earth as it is in heaven.
- Revival has to be unto something. It is not just for the goosebumps. ‘Being unto something’ is a stewarding thought about revival. What will I do with it when it’s happening to me?

I. Revival and the Presence of God

- A. When we make room for the Presence of God in our lives we are sure to experience revival. What much of the church in our nation is struggling with is they have left no room for God to work. There’s no room for the presence of God and therefore no room for revival. There is no room for encounter.
 1. In Exodus 33:2, God offered to send an angel before Moses and the Israelites into the promised land. “You could have had me but you get an angel now.”
 2. Moses refused to go! Moses knew what it meant to have the presence and he was not going to do life with the presence! Oh, that we as believers would have that mind set.
 - a) If you do not go with me then we are not moving.
 - b) *“For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”*” (Exodus 33:16, ESV)
- B. Revival and the presence of God are almost synonymous.
 1. You can’t have revival without the presence.
 2. And you can’t have the presence without someone getting revived.
 3. Remember, revival is: life, restoring life, giving life, causing to live. Revival comes at varying degrees to different people, much of that has to do with the presence and how willing we are to submit to it. Ie. Renewal, floor time, follow the Apostle Paul.
- C. The evidence of revival is changed lives.
 1. Revival resets the trajectory of our lives to greater impact. (path, object, force.) D.I.G.- doubt, insecurity, guilt. Revival resets your trajectory.
 2. However God touches you it has to be unto something. It is not just for goosebumps.
 3. We should be able to ask what was that (goosebumps/shaking etc) for.

II. The Thing About Revival - You have to Steward it.

- A. Revivals seem to come and go. There are many reasons we could look at why that is. I want to look at one. *“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”* (2 Corinthians 3:18, ESV)
 1. God moves from glory to glory in our lives. He is always building upon what He has

- done. Ie Like creation.
2. The key to how often this happens in our lives is based on how well we, as priests, carry it. Or how well we, as Christians, steward it.
 3. In other words: God lights a fire and the priests keep it burning.
 - a) The fire represented the presence of God.
 - b) Fire represented the moving of God among His people. Pillar of fire/Elijah's fire, tongues of fire, etc.
 - c) Fire is a living thing. It must breathe to live. We need the wind of the Spirit upon the fire of our hearts so we must make room for Him.
- B. Revival when stewarded well does two things:
1. Impacts the church. Which is demonstrated by the Holy Spirit's presence and the freedom for him to do what he wants.
 2. Impacts culture and society. People are saved and culture is changed. When this is happening revival is reaching its purpose.
 3. Revival when stewarded looks like this...
 - a) It impacts a person's heart first!
 - b) Impacts the local church where that person attends.
 - c) Impacts the city of that local church and eventually the nation.
 - (1) God's intention of revival is to bring reformation to the depth that culture is changed. *"Revival is a community saturated with God."*— Duncan Campbell
 - (2) Ie. John Wesley modeled this: heart was 'strangely warmed,' preached and people were saved thus impacting the church, preached outside church impacting cities over a period of a few years impacted England. Wesley was credited as saving England from bloody revolutions like France had.
- C. We must learn to Steward Small beginnings.
1. IE. I love the illustration that Bill Johnson uses. Bill had been touched by God. He and Randy Clark went to Argentina and saw what God was doing there. He compared it to them being a ripe, juicy red apple and Bethel being a little green apple. Both are apples, the green one is just not as mature. Do not despise the day of small beginnings! Be patient for the fruit to mature. Steward it.
 2. We have to recognize that the revival in us and steward it!
 3. If we are praying for a revival the size of an oak tree and God gives us an acorn, what are you going to do? Get that seed in the ground so it can happen! We have to steward it.
 - a) When God tugs on your heart at home or at work—draw near to Him.
 - b) Those are revival moments that lead us to more!
 - c) This is learning to live as a revivalist!!! Something we all want to be for the glory of God.

Conclusion:

- Revival has to be unto something!
- Therefore steward what God has/is giving you.