

REVIVE CHURCH

ANOINTING #6 KEEP IN STEP

Keeping in step with the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5:16-17 (NKJV) 16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

Galatians 5:25 (NKJV) If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Every generation Of Christians are meant to find out what the Holy Spirit is saying in their generational. We have a responsibility as the church in 2025 to discern the emphasis of God on planet earth and make adjustments according to the leadership of the Holy Spirit in order that God's Kingdom would advance and his will would be done on earth as it is in heaven.

The church as a whole has had a difficult time keeping in step with the Holy Spirit. We tend to like how God has moved in the past, build tidy packages and systems, cling to denominational distinctions and exalt past heroes of faith that were faithful to God hundreds of years ago. We forget that many of those we hold in high regard after their death were going against the grain of modern religion and had a burning in their heart for Jesus. They were willing to follow Him wherever He would lead and were willing to bear Jesus shame which was often outside the camp, or the acceptable norm.

Jeremiah 2:13 (NKJV) *“For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, [And] hewn themselves cisterns--broken cisterns that can hold no water.*

**though we learn and draw from others our main source must be the person of Jesus Christ. He is the fountain that never runs dry. Every other model though they may be great are broken cisterns (man made) that cannot hold His fullness.*

Not all, but many mainline denominations were shaped by revival movements or extraordinary outpourings of the Holy Spirit that required the church to have a new wine skin in order to hold the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that was happening.

I was brought up in the Church of the Nazarene, a denomination that was filled with the presence and fire of God. Its founder Phineas Bresee Was undone by the glory of God. It was the anointing of the Holy Spirit that transcended the Nazarenes lack of education, money and prestige. It is said that the presence of God was sometimes so powerful it seemed impossible for lost people to enter the services without being converted. People who were coming to laugh and scoff ended up on their knees weeping and in tears before God under holy conviction. Their services were frequently characterized by shouts of joy and people waving their handkerchiefs with inexpressible happiness. Bresee said “we keep a red hot center of fire and work the edges.” they were nicknamed the noisyrenes Because of their passion. Doctor Bresee’s main message was keep the glory down. This was his primary emphasis, the glory of God the power

and anointing of the Holy Spirit. Phineas knew that if he ever lost the glory of God they were finished they had nothing else going for them no money no schooling, but they had the glory the anointing.

This is the primary goal of our gathering together. To experience the Presence and power of the Holy Spirit through worship, preaching of the word and the fellowship of the saints. The anointing of the Holy Spirit himself bypasses education, culture, race, and every other hindrance to Jesus Christ.

I could move into the denomination or movement that many of you were raised in and it probably has many things in common with the early nazarenes or the holiness movement. If you were to study the different moves of God, you would understand quickly that though there are some common denominators preceding the move of the Spirit, the **specific outpouring of each move of God was unique.**

- **Every generation of Christians must adjust to the outpouring and presence of God in such a way that it could become a stigma (*mark of disgrace*) for them because it was different than what they knew or had experienced.**
- **God's always calling his people to adjust to His leading and it is almost always costly to our reputation.**
- **I can tell you from my own experience That the longing Phineas had to keep the glory down may still be an emphasis on some individual churches but is not a primary emphasis for the denomination anymore.**
- **Many movements will not admit to the withdrawal of the Holy Spirit, and they work things up, creating something that's man made (cistern) rather than something that's spirit filled.**

One of the issues with many church movements is that when they do experience God in extraordinary ways they often think that they alone have the ingredients needed, rather than honoring the ways that Holy Spirit is moving in other places. **Phinees though used mightily by God would end up denying the work of the Holy Spirit at Azusa street which was outside his camp.**

5 stages of all denominations or movements.

1. **Origination**-(individual or Small group overtaken by a vision and life changing power of God)
2. **Expansion**-Small group evangelizes, grows, new converts have the same enthusiasm for purpose and mission
3. **Organization**-original group expands which requires structure, discipline methods, infrastructure. The most essential aspect during this phase is to reacquaint individuals

with the same values, purpose and mission of the movement. Congregants can't just listen to how God used to move but pursue experiencing Him through fresh encounters. (This is where most if not all have failed!)

4. **Institutionalization**-group or denomination has become so diverse it loses it's values and sense of purpose. **It's a system that protects, operates in fear and new generations are born into a movement that is no longer moving**, lack of personal knowledge or experience leads to confusion and false doctrine.
5. **Stagnation**- movement exists in name only, slow death.

The reality is God won't be crammed into our boxes. He is in all consuming fire, He is a jealous God and He will lead the people who will follow Him, trust His word, sit at His feet and love Him wholeheartedly. We must be willing to follow when He reveals Himself. He is greater than our traditions and religion. It is not always easy to know why the spirit subsides after a while, why revival ends, but looking back to the text in Galatians 5, the flesh tends to get in the way and the flesh of man and Holy Spirit of God have nothing in common. **It's been said the revival that's coming is going to be so powerful that this time God won't allow the flesh of man to touch it!**

Timeline

- **In the 16th century incredible doctrines of the church were rediscovered** by the power of the Holy Spirit. Justification by faith alone, authority of Scripture. You could call this mind renewal within the body of Christ.
- **1730's -1740's the first great awakening** The preaching of John Wesley and George Whitfield was largely experiential. Conviction of sin and deep repentance , assurance of salvation, hymn writing, the power of the Holy Spirit was awakening hearts on the land and there were many conversions and powerful manifestations of the Holy Spirit.
- **1790's-1840's Second great awakening-** Leaders were Charles Finney in whom the spirit released mass conversions, fervor and social reform
- **1800's Holiness and missionary movements** the emphasis was on *sanctification and the deeper life found in Christ*. Compassionate ministries and global missions the birth of holiness denominations.
- **1904-1905 The Welsh Revival,** leader *Evan Roberts*, Holy Spirit released powerful conviction, and spontaneous worship, confession, reconciliation, prayer and youth involvement.
- **1906-1915 Azusa street-**leader *William Seymour*-Holy Spirit released emphasis on the baptism in the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues, racial and gender unity and worship, birth of the global Pentecostal movement and renewed emphasis on miracles and healings.

There's also the healing revivals that happened in the 1940s through the 1960s, mass evangelism through people like Billy Graham. In the 60s through the 80s there was the Jesus movement, charismatic renewal where the Holy Spirit was blowing through every denomination. In the 80s and 90s There was the Toronto blessing the Brownsville revival the Argentine revival.

There's actually many other moves of God that I'm not emphasizing my point is that through each move of the Holy Spirit there is a unique distinction or anointing that is not a copy of anything prior. Our goal should be to have such fellowship with Jesus, such humility and hunger for His manifest glory that we are willing to adjust to His leading and not hold on to yesterday's anointing.

Moses model-camp with your tent facing the glory. We have no input on His moving

Numbers 9:21-23 (NKJV) 21 So it was, when the cloud remained only from evening until morning: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey. 22 [Whether it was] two days, a month, or a year that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, they would journey. 23 At the command of the LORD they remained encamped, and at the command of the LORD they journeyed; they kept the charge of the LORD, at the command of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

They were all required to watch, wait and be obedient.

Let's not be deceived that yesterday's anointing is enough for today and build rhythms around intimacy with God that keeps us filled with oil and keeps our hearts burning. Our continued affectedness is determined by hearing God's voice today and replenishing at His feet, keeping our eyes locked upon the cloud of His Presence.

This is from Martin Luther's journal "I have a very busy day today must spend not 2 but three hours in prayer." John Wesley prayed no less than two hours everyday.

Home groups

1. Discuss-**Jeremiah 2:13 (NKJV)** *"For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, [And] hewn themselves cisterns--broken cisterns that can hold no water.*

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2. Why do you believe each move of God holds different distinctions of His anointing?

3. Discuss your personal growth in the area of being open to a fresh move of the Holy Spirit and how you are actively pursuing a move of God.
4. Discuss the 5 stages of every denomination or movement
5. How can you be prepared for the next move of God? What makes you ready?

History of Revivals

Era / Revival	Approx. Date	What the Holy Spirit Released
Pentecost (Acts 2)	1st Century	Power for witness, tongues, prophecy, miracles, birth of the Church
Early Church Revivals	1st–5th C.	Missionary expansion, holiness, Scripture formation
Medieval Renewal Movements	10th–15th C.	Holiness, compassion, creation awe, simplicity
Protestant Reformation	1517–1600s	Salvation by faith, authority of Scripture, renewed preaching
Puritan & Pietist Revivals	1600s–1700s	Personal devotion, small groups, moral reform
First Great Awakening	1730s–1740s	Repentance, assurance, outdoor preaching, new hymns
Second Great Awakening	1790s–1840s	Mass conversions, evangelism, social reform
Holiness & Missionary Movements	1800's	Sanctification, missions, compassion ministries
Welsh Revival	1904–1905	Conviction, worship, confession, youth revival
Azusa Street Revival	1906–1915	Spirit baptism, tongues, unity, miracles
Evangelical & Healing Revivals	1940s–1960s	Mass evangelism, healing, global missions
Charismatic Renewal	1960s–1980s	Gifts of the Spirit in mainline churches, worship renewal
Third Wave & Global Revivals	1980s–1990s	Prophetic ministry, worship renewal, joy, missions
21st-Century Revivals	2000s–Today	Repentance, intimacy, youth prayer movements, unity