

Discussion Questions

Date: August 23rd, 2026

Preacher: Josh Ratliff

Sermon Outline

Talking Points

Revival | Isaiah 64:1; Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:14-21; 3:19-20; James 4:8-10

A Cry for Revival Is a Cry for God (Isa. 64:1; Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:14-21; 3:19-20)

- Revival happens when God comes near to his people to restore their hearts to faithfulness.
- Revival is often the response of God to the repentance of His people.
- **Question:** Where are you sensing the need for revival in your life and home?

When Revival Comes...

- There is a hunger for God more than this world. (Acts 2:42-47)
- There is a renewed commitment to prayer and dependence on His presence. (Acts 4:23-31)
- There is a heightened awareness of the holiness of God. (Acts 2:37; 5:1-11; Acts 19:11-20)
- There is a profound grief over the spiritual condition of the lost. (Acts 17:16; 20:24)
- **Question:** Are we ready for these marks of revival? How are we preparing our hearts for them?

Bottom Line: We need to seek the God of revival for our church, family, and community!

* What comes to mind when you hear the word "revival"? What past experiences have you had to shape your view of revival?

* Read Acts 3:19-20. Why do you think "times of refreshing" from the Lord follow repentance?

* How can we know if our repentance is genuine, rather than just an attempt to get something from God? What should fuel our repentance?

* Share about a specific time in your life where you repented of your ways and chose to obey the Lord and obey His commands instead.

* What are your thoughts on the daily rhythms of the early church found in Acts 2:42-47?

* How do we distinguish between relying on the Holy Spirit and trusting in human strategy? What does Spirit led faith look like when the world, possibly even well intentioned brothers and sisters in Christ, call it foolish? (Acts 4:23-31)

* Who in your life needs revival from the Lord?

* How has this sermon or discussion on revival challenged you? In what ways are you going to seek the Lord and His presence this week, not just emotional or comfortable experiences from Him?

Understanding Scripture

1. Read the passage aloud.

- Question: How would the original audience have understood this passage?
- Question: What was God's desire for them?

2. Reread key verse(s) aloud.

- Question: What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
- Question: What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?

3. Ask if anything is difficult to understand in the passage, or simply point it out yourself.

- Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
- Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
- If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.

4. Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen in Amos...")

- Question: What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
- Question: How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

Prayer Requests

