

SPEAK AND WE WILL

LISTEN

THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION

PART 1 - REVIVAL IS SEEKING GOD ON GOD'S TERMS

DANIEL 9:1-19

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MESSAGE NOTES

BIG IDEA FOR THE WEEK: GOD INVITES US TO POSITION OURSELVES FOR REVIVAL BY SEEKING HIM _____

1. REVIVAL COMES WHEN GOD'S WORD _____ US

2. REVIVAL COMES WHEN GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS _____ US

3. REVIVAL COMES WHEN GOD'S MERCY _____ US

BIG IDEA: WHOLE-HEARTEDLY 1. INFORMS 2. GRIEVES 3. MOTIVATES

AN INVITATION FOR GOD'S CHURCH TO FAST AS WE PREPARE FOR REVIVAL NIGHTS

What Biblical Fasting Is, and Is Not

- It *is* the voluntary, temporary abstaining from legitimate and good things
- It *is* to give focused attention to God through prayer, confession, repentance, and dependence
- It *is not* a hunger strike to force God's hand
- It *is not* a ritual that earns favor or blessing
- It *is not* a public display of spirituality

Why The Bible Calls Us To Fast

- Fasting is an expression of humility before God
- Fasting for repentance and confession of sin
- Fasting in times of crisis or desperation
- Fasting to seek God's guidance and direction
- Fasting to intensify prayer
- Fasting as an act of worship and longing for God

What Fasting Teaches Us

- Fasting exposes what controls us
- Fasting reveals hidden dependencies
- Fasting trains us to say, "no" to the flesh
- Fasting reorients our appetite toward God

Fasting From Food Is Primary—But Not Exclusive

- Media and Entertainment
- Device Dependence
- Comforts and Luxuries
- Hurry and Busyness
- Control and Self-Reliance
- Personal Preferences and hobbies

What Do We Hope For From Fasting Together?

- To engage in a spiritual discipline together
- To increase true spiritual depth, not just spiritual performance
- To learn discipline, not another empty ritual

How To Enter A Fast Faithfully

- Clarify the purpose (repentance, guidance, renewal)
- Commit the time (1 meal a day, 1 day, 3 days, the whole week)
- Replace, don't just remove (prayer replaces eating)
- Stay Scripture-centered
- End with gratitude and obedience