

Psalm 85:6

Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?

I think it is safe to say that we are all wanting revival to happen, be it in the Church around the world, or our church that we go to, or our band of Christian friends we hang out with. Also in our homes, and even in ourselves. And to desire such a thing is a wonderful thing to want. But we also have to remember that, unless the Spirit brings revival, it will just become another fad that will fade away.

† **Luke 8:13 (MSG)** *The seeds in the gravel are those who hear with enthusiasm, but the enthusiasm doesn't go very deep. It's only another fad, and the moment there's trouble it's gone.*

It's like wanting something or even someone, so much so, that we pray and pray and pray, and in our eagerness, we start praying less, and start doing more to get what we were praying for, forgetting that God's word says.

† **Philippians 4:6** *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;*

Say you wanted a brand-new car, so you pray and pray about it every day. Now it may not be wrong to ask for a new car, or even to get one... at the right time. But if you start getting anxious (*Be anxious for nothing*) and start praying less, because you are now working two jobs or a bunch of overtimes to get that new car, the car has not trumped what God is wanting to do, and you are doing it in your own efforts to get the car. And even if you got it, you may find that you still have to work two or even three jobs to make the payments or work so much overtime that you don't even have time to enjoy that new car, so it now controls you. But if you simply continued to pray and wait on the Lord, "If" and when God decides it's time for you to have that new car, He will make it happen in a manner that it's not a burden on you and your family, but rather a joy.

So, praying for a revival is a great thing to pray for, but there are times when we try to make revival happen (like my example of wanting a new car), and we do so with different programs, events, etc. that are man made to bring people to church and to a relationship with Jesus. But if you read the bible, we do not read of the disciples having events, and special programs to bring others to Jesus Christ, or even to encourage the body, but rather it was ALWAYS done with prayer, fasting and the teaching of the word of God.

† **Acts 2:42 (NLT2)** *All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.*

But have you ever thought why they didn't do special events and shows and other means to share the gospel or encourage each other in their walk with Jesus? It could be that events are simply that, an event, and when you do an event, people are drawn to an event or show, and when it's

over they will go to another event somewhere else, because they were entertained, but not fed the word of God, nor encouraged in the word of God.

Think of a movie, especially as kids, when we saw those knights in shining armor and wanted to be just like them. So we would pretend we were these awesome knights using sticks as swords and trashcan lids as shields. But soon it wore off, when the next movie came out, now we want to be a cowboy or a police officer, because that's the latest fad for kids, or even today it's these superheros in the movies or video games. Once again, another fad.

But revival is not a fad or a passing thing. No, it revives the church, not the world, because the world is still dead. But the Church is where revival is needed because the Church has become dead and useless. Usually because it has allowed the world to creep in and permeate the church, therefore, as leprosy creeps in and kills a body, so the sins of the world creeps in and slowly kills the church, and we know the only One who can heal and remove leprosy is Jesus, therefore only Jesus can revive the church and heal it of the sin that has crept into the church.

So pray for revival, and wait on the Holy Spirit to bring it throughout the churches around the world and in each and every one of us.

† **Psalm 85:6** *Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?*

† **Psalm 80:18 (NLT2)** *Then we will never abandon you again. Revive us so we can call on your name once more.*

† **Zechariah 10:3 (MSG)** *"I'm furious with the so-called shepherds. They're worse than billy goats, and I'll treat them like goats." GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies will step in and take care of his flock, the people of Judah. He'll revive their spirits, make them proud to be on God's side.*