



FLOURISH

Flourish: Preparing for Revival

February 25, 2024

Speaker: Pastor Al Gordon

Scripture: Mark 1:1-11, Joshua 3:5, Habakkuk 3:2, John 3:30, Hebrews 13:8

Sermon Overview: “Revival is an intensification and acceleration of the normal work of the Holy Spirit,” Johnathan Edwards. But just as John prepared the way of Jesus, so can we prepare the way for revival. John came preaching the baptism of repentance and the forgiveness of sins. John’s preparation for the arrival of Jesus included baptism, forgiveness, *and* repentance. What if we spent a year preparing the way for revival? Consecrating, contending, and communing.

Sermon Series Question:

1. Where are you planted? Where is your hope planted?

Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. Charles Finney said, “Revival is a renewed conviction of sin and repentance, followed by an intense desire to live in obedience to God. It is giving up one’s will to God in deep humility.” How do you know if you are experiencing revival? Have you ever experienced personal or collective revival? Could you share a testimony to someone around you about this experience?
2. Read Joshua 3. How did the Israelites consecrate themselves? Were the Israelites preparing to enter an experience of revival? How do you know? What does it mean to consecrate yourself and your life to the Lord?
3. Many of the historical accounts of collective revival were preceded by believers contending in prayer for an outpouring of God’s presence. In effect, they were crying out to God, “Don’t pass us by!” How have you seen God meet His people’s cries both in the Bible and in your own experience? How does this prompt you to pray?

Digging Deeper:

1. According to God's Word, what does the communion within the Trinity (between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) look like? How should this communion be reflected in human relationships? Family, friends, coworkers? Spend some time in quiet communion with God, lingering in His presence. What aspect of communion with Him would you like to deepen? What does the Lord have to say about your communion with Him?
2. Read Habakkuk 3:1-2. What works of the Lord have caused you to stand in awe? What works of the Lord would you like to see revived in your time? How might the Lord be asking you to consecrate yourself, contend in prayer, and commune in order to prepare the way for a revival of His works in your life, at this time?

Practical Application:

- Consider looking at our fasting resources at ncc.re/fast. What has your experience been with fasting?
- Join us for the John Wesley fast– Text “fast” to– 844-504-0861
- Join a group or a ministry team, or become a mission partner!
- Get in community with a small group. It's not too late. Check them all out at ncc.re/groups!!