

The “Flipp” Side on Personal Spiritual Revival

***Search me, O God, and know my heart;
try me and know my anxious thoughts;
And see if there be any hurtful way in me,
and lead me in the everlasting way. Psalm 139.23-24***

Those two verses may be the most dangerous prayer we can ever pray. If we pray those two verses honestly and sincerely, then our Heavenly Father will search us and will show our anxious thoughts and our hurtful ways. He will also then lead us in the everlasting way, where anxious thoughts are treated with grace and hurtful ways are treated with forgiveness and mercy.

These verses may be two of the most important verses you can pray to spark personal revival in your own life. Our country is in desperate need of another spiritual awakening. Our churches are in desperate need of revival. Norfleet will only experience a spiritual revival when we as individuals experience spiritual revival, and it all starts with those two short verses. Our anxious thoughts and our hurtful ways keep us from experiencing the sweet delight of spiritual revival. But let’s not dance around the issue. The primary reason we don’t experience the sweet delight of spiritual revival and the abundant life that Jesus speaks of John 10:10, is because we have become tolerant of sin in our lives. We must be aggressive in our battle against the sin we have in our own lives. We have been saved by grace through faith and we are being sanctified by grace through faith. Just as you accepted the promises of scripture that Jesus paid the penalty for your sin, so to must you believe the promises of scripture to break the power of canceled sin in your life.

Several years ago I was given the following five steps to personal revival by Jim Elliff during a seminar at Midwestern Baptist Seminary, and I want you to have them. These five steps are not for the faint of heart. They are not for lightweights. These steps can only be taken by people who are serious about godliness and holiness in their lives and have the desire to experience contagious personal spiritual revival. Could it be the Lord wants you to take these five steps and be the next catalyst for revival across our great nation? Could you be the one? Yes, you could be the one, and yes, you can take these five steps.

The following list is Jim Elliff’s “Five Resolves for Personal Revival”.

1. Repent of Every Known Sin - Resolved: I will not go to bed this evening nor live this day without fully repenting of all known sin against God. (James 4:4-10; 2 Corinthians 7:10)

‘Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; be zealous therefore, and repent. Revelation 3:19 (NAS)

2. Forsake All Questionable Habits and Activities - Resolved: I will not to go to bed this evening nor live this day without removing from my life every habit or activity I cannot be absolutely sure is approved by God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

For whatever is not from faith is sin. Romans 14:23b

3. Make Right Any Wrongs between Yourself and Others - Resolved: I will not to go to bed this evening nor live this day without doing all that is possible to correct any wrongs between myself and others. (Matthew 6:14-15; Matthew 18:15-35; Romans 12:17-21; Colossians 3:12-15)

"If therefore you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, and go your way; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering. Matthew 5:23-24

4. Commune With God In Prayer And Be Personally Instructed Through His Word - Resolved: I will not to go to bed this evening nor live this day without spending quiet moments with God in prayer and sincerely meditating on His Word. (1 Peter 2:2-3; 1 John 5:14-17)

*Pray without ceasing; 1 Thessalonians 5:17
Revive me, O LORD, according to Thy word. Psalms 119:107b*

5. Trust God To Use You As His Specially Designed Tool For Revival In Others - Resolved: I will not to go to bed this evening nor live this day without asking and expecting God to use me as an effective instrument of revival in someone's life. (Jude 22-23; 1 Peter 4:11; Psalms 51:10-13)

My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth, and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death, and will cover a multitude of sins. James 5:19-20