

Praying for Revival



Resources:

Praying Scripture

Sometimes it is hard to know what to pray about. An easy way to help give structure to prayer time is to use Scripture to guide you. Turn to the Psalms or one of the Prophets and read the passage. Then work through the passage in smaller pieces, either by verse or section, praying through the themes you find. Often throughout Scripture we see people recounting back to God in their prayers His words and promises, so this is a great way to pray in line with God's heart and bring out hearts in line with His.

Prayer Walk

Either on your own or with a small group, walk around the neighborhood of your church and the community you serve. Pay attention to what is happening around you and allow those things you observe to guide your prayer (praise, petition, intercession, etc....). Let your time be led by the Spirit. If you are on your own, you can pray silently or softly to yourself. If you are in a small group, pray out loud as if you're just having a conversation with each other. As you walk and pray, you can also stop and interact with people you encounter. Offer to pray with them or even share the Gospel. Prayer walks are low-prep activities that help align our hearts with God's heart for our communities and see the beauty and brokenness in our communities as well. This is a way you can help prepare the soil for the work of your GJC! After your walk be sure to re-gather and reflect together.

Confession & Lament

As we look across our world and communities, there is a lot that breaks our hearts. As we long for revival in ourselves and our communities, it is good for our souls and ministry to create space for confession and lament. Revival starts within us first, and that begins by humble confession. If we long for God's revival, it is likely because we see the world around and know "this isn't right" or "this is not how it should be." Scripture has given us a way to respond to those questions and longings, and that is lament. Lament is a way of expressing and processing our grief before God when we see injustice and pain in the world. There are 4 steps to lament:

Address – we turn to God in prayer and identify Him as the one to whom we are speaking

Complaint – we tell God what we are feeling and what is wrong

Request – we ask God for help and what we want Him to do

Trust – we confess our trust in God's grace, even if we don't know the answer to our prayers

As we interact with our neighbors in need and experience their stories, making space for lament can be a helpful way to process our compassion fatigue and remember that God is the one who brings true justice and hope in all our circumstances.

Books:

- ***Persevering Power*** by Bruce Strom
- ***Longing for Revival*** by James Choung
- ***The Power of Group Prayer*** by Carolyn Carney
- ***Radical Prayer*** by Manny Mill
- ***Sun Stand Still*** by Steven Furtick
- ***What if Jesus was Serious About Prayer?*** by Skye Jethani