

DECADES, NOT DAYS

WEEK 6 - SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

WELCOME

(Read the below on your own, or aloud as a group.)

Revival doesn't begin in a moment. It begins in a direction.

Left to ourselves, we rarely drift in that direction. No one drifts toward God on accident.

Drift is always slow, always subtle, and almost never toward deeper faith. It's a few missed days. A little less urgency. A little more distraction. And over time, what once felt alive begins to feel distant.

Drift happens slowly, but so does renewal.

You don't stumble into a life with God, you build one. Not in a single moment, but over time. One faithful day at a time. One prayer at a time. One quiet decision to keep going.

That's how revival begins, in us, and in our world. With ordinary people who refuse to stop seeking God, even when nothing seems to be happening.

At the turn of the 20th century, in a small and struggling church in Wales, a handful of elderly women made a decision. They refused to accept spiritual decline as the final word over their church or their nation.

So they prayed. Week after week. Year after year. The same simple prayer: "Lord, send revival to our church. Lord, send revival to our nation."

Nothing seemed to change. No crowds. No momentum. No visible breakthrough. Just ordinary faithfulness in an ordinary room. Until 1904.

Revival broke out across Wales. Within a year, an estimated 100,000 people had come to Christ. Taverns closed. Crime dropped. Entire communities were transformed.

And behind it all were years of unseen, persistent prayer from people no one would have noticed, except God. They were planting long before anyone saw a harvest.

That's how the kingdom of God works. You never plant and harvest in the same season. And most of what God does in you—and through you—will be built the same way revival in Wales was built: not in a moment, but over time. Not through intensity, but through consistency.

So here's the question to sit with before your group meets: What are you planting right now?

Not what you used to plant. Not what you wish you were planting. Right now, what seeds are going into the ground?

Because you don't build a life with God in moments. You build it in days that turn into decades. And the invitation of this week isn't to feel more inspired. It's to keep going.



CONNECT

Take a few minutes to discuss one or both of the following questions:

- What is something that spoke to you in last week's devotional or something you experienced with God this week that you'd like to share with the group?
- What's one word you'd use to describe your spiritual life and where you're at with God today?

WATCH

Watch the video, and write down anything that stands out, challenges you, or raises a question.

DISCUSS

1. The teaching described distraction as the single greatest threat to revival in our culture today, greater even than persecution or spiritual warfare. In your own experience, what does distraction from God usually look like? Is it dramatic, or mostly quiet and gradual?

Where do you tend to drift first when you're not paying attention?

2. Have someone read Hebrews 12:1-2. What does the image of 'throwing off everything that hinders' and 'the sin that so easily entangles' bring to mind for you personally? What might it look like, practically, to do that?

3. We've learned five revival practices in this study:

- An urgent and dependent posture
- Ongoing repentance
- Kingdom prayer
- Brokenhearted boldness
- Raising the next generation

These are all skills you grow in over time, not standards you have to master overnight. How does that framing change the way you feel about pursuing these practices?

Which of the revival practices from this series feels most like a skill you're still learning? What would it look like to practice that skill in a small, specific way this week?

4. Have someone read Galatians 6:7-9. Paul says, "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Today's teaching touched on the same point: You never plant and harvest in the same season.

Is there an area of your life—a relationship, a prayer, a faithfulness—where you have been planting without seeing any harvest? What would it look like to keep planting anyway?

5. Timothy Dwight prayed for a decade before revival broke out at Yale. Hundreds of Yale graduates went out on fire for Christ, and many became university presidents across the country. Historians credit that wave with the Christianization of the U.S. population through the university system in the 1800s. It all traced back to one man who was faithful for decades, not days.



Dwight couldn't have imagined how far his faithfulness would reach. How does that change the way you think about the small, unseen things you're doing for God right now?

Where is God calling you to be a "Timothy Dwight," faithful in your own sphere of influence, even if you never see the full impact?

6. Today's teaching closed with a line from CT Studd: "Only one life, it will soon be passed. Only what's done for Christ will last." If you fast-forward to the end of your life and look back at this season, what do you want to have been true about how you lived it?

What is one specific, concrete thing you can take to become the kind of person who keeps going—not just for a few days, but for decades?

PRAY

Close your time together in prayer.

- Thank God that He does not require perfection and that He meets us in the small, faithful moments and multiplies them beyond what we can see.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the distractions in each person's life that are quietly replacing closeness with God and ask for the grace to lay them down.
- Pray for each person's salvation prayer list.
- Ask God to make your group a people marked by long-haul faithfulness, not sprint-and-crash cycles, but steady, daily pursuit of Him.
- Pray for a great awakening in your own hearts, in your church, in your city, and in your nation. Ask God to use ordinary, willing, persistent people to bring it about.

THIS WEEK

Identify one revival practice from this series that you want to make a genuine daily habit, not just for days, but for decades. Tell someone in your group what it is and ask them to check in with you in two weeks.

