

Hope City

Discussion Guide

August 23, 2026

Revive My Perspective

Revive Me: Week 4

Pastor Daniel Groves

Main Idea

Pastor Daniel opens Week 4 of *Revive Me* by focusing on the need for God to revive our perspective. Our circumstances may not immediately change, but the way we see them can. Through the Parable of the Sower in Mark 4, Jesus shows that the seed—God’s Word—remains the same; what determines the outcome is the condition of the soil. Rather than questioning whether God’s Word is working, we are challenged to examine the condition of our hearts and allow God to cultivate good soil where His Word can take root and produce lasting fruit.

Anchor Verse: “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1, NIV).

Read: Mark 4:3-19

1. THE CONDITION OF OUR HEARTS CHANGES HOW WE RECEIVE THE WORD

Our past disappointment, pain, or fear can distort our perspective before truth can take root. Revival begins when we allow God to renew our thinking, clean the lens through which we see our circumstances, and reshape our perspective according to His truth.

Scripture: Mark 4:15; Romans 12:2

Discussion: What experiences, disappointments, or fears can make it difficult for us to receive God’s Word with the right perspective? Where in your life might God want to change the way you are seeing a situation before He changes the situation itself?

2. WE CAN'T CONFUSE SHALLOW GROWTH WITH HEALTHY GROWTH

Spiritual growth is not measured by how quickly something happens, but by how deeply our lives are being rooted in Christ. What may feel like delay or inactivity could actually be a season where God is developing the character, faith, endurance, and dependence we will need for what comes next.

Scripture: Mark 4:16-17; Colossians 2:6-7; James 1:3-4

Discussion: Where are you most tempted to interpret a slow season as God doing nothing, and how might a different perspective change the way you see it? What are some ways God can use seasons of waiting or testing to develop deeper roots in us?

3. DON'T JUDGE WHAT GOD PLANTED BY WHAT YOU CAN SEE TODAY

God's work is not limited to what we can see today; His Word can be taking root and producing growth beneath the surface long before the harvest becomes visible. Instead of letting worry, distraction, or delay crowd out our faith, we can make room for God, trust what He has planted, and remain faithful while He works.

Scripture: Mark 4:18-20; Psalm 46:10; Galatians 6:9; Isaiah 43:19

Discussion: Where in your life are you tempted to assume "nothing is happening" because you cannot yet see visible results? What worries, distractions, or demands are most likely to crowd out God's voice in your life, and what would it look like to intentionally make more room for Him?

THE SEED IS STILL GOOD

The Word still works

His promises still stand

God is still faithful

SUMMARY

Revival includes allowing God to change not only our circumstances, but the way we see them. As we make room for His Word, deepen our roots in Christ, and trust what He is doing even when we cannot see immediate results, God can transform our perspective and produce lasting fruit in our lives.

CALL TO ACTION

Check Your Lens: Identify one situation where disappointment, fear, or past pain may be shaping your perspective. Ask God to help you see it through the truth of His Word instead.

Strengthen Your Roots: Choose one simple spiritual rhythm—Scripture, prayer, worship, or reflection—and practice it consistently this week, even if you do not see immediate results.

Make Room For God: Identify one distraction, worry, or unnecessary demand you can reduce this week so you have intentional space to listen to God and recognize what He may already be doing beneath the surface.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

What Do You See

Show the group a few optical illusions, ambiguous images, or tightly cropped photos and ask everyone to quickly say what they think they see. After revealing the full image, point out that everyone was looking at the same thing, but perspective shaped what they perceived.

Then connect it back to the message: *Sometimes the situation hasn't changed—our perspective has. God may be working in a season we have labeled delay, disappointment, or loss.*

You could close the activity with one simple question:

“What is one area of your life where you may need God to help you see differently?”

A second option, if you want something with no visuals, is **“Reframe It.”** Give the group a few scenarios such as “I didn’t get the opportunity,” “I’m still waiting,” or “This season feels slow.” Have them brainstorm two ways to interpret each one: a negative perspective and a faith-filled perspective. The goal is not positive thinking; it is recognizing that our first interpretation is not always the most accurate one.

For this particular sermon, I’d choose **What Do You See?** It is simple, takes about five minutes, gets everyone participating, and creates a clean bridge into the discussion on *reviving our perspective*.