

In our fellowship we do revivals. This series men is to help give you an understanding of WHY & HOW to prepare for a revival. In our scripture Cornelius called in Peter to hear the message the Lord gave to Peter...

I WHY REVIVAL:

A- First we must understand the rationale for having a revival:

1. **It's an evangelistic tool:** The MAIN aim is getting visitors in, so that they get saved
 - a. The point is to draw people in to hear the Gospel... its another evangelistic tool
2. **Is to bring a supernatural dimension:** Evangelists usually have an emphasis to their ministry and that emphasis establishes the supernatural
 - a. Gifts of the spirit/healing/testimony/evangelism/inspiring-motivate
3. **To bring an experienced dimension:** we have a fellowship of pastors with a diversity of experience.
 - a. Someone with something to say can challenge the congregation in a different or higher way- *same vision- with a seasoned delivery.*
 - b. Also: *a younger Pastor can bring in experienced men who can see what they are not seeing/ and bring direction.*
 - c. I often brought men in that I trusted, and knew they had fresh eyes for my church. They could see abnormality
4. Important to note: Some men can bring more than one dimension-
 - a. It helps to know what the man offers- and what you are needing from him.
 - b. *It would be very bad to have someone in for a healing crusade- with no experience or gifting in that area!*

B. So; Not all evangelists or visiting speakers are the same!

1. Some have an evangelistic gift to fire people up or inspire them: We call them *revivalists*
2. Some have the supernatural Dimension: *Gifting of the spirit*
3. Some have the ability to draw visitors: *testimony/end times- or their grace/ compassion draws on people*
4. Some have something to really say: *theyre words make lasting impact/ people are transformed through their ministry.*
5. Some have a foundational ministry: *Work well with new converts/connect with older saints- they teach on foundational/fundamental areas*

C. If the revival doesn't add anything to the congregation- then its probably not worth having. *Theres a few reasons for this- some things to consider...*

1. Revivals are the most expensive event you can do
 - a. If its just more of the same sermons- then your going to feel that you've wasted money.
2. Some guys have their pioneer buddy in and they are just trying to save some money
 - a. But they don't consider the credibility factor- *If you have some weak revivals in a row, then when you have someone good- the people might not support it...*
3. SO its important to look for men who have what you don't have- who can do what you might not be able to do
 - a. Have men who have broken through some things/ have a supernatural edge/ experience.
4. If you're pioneering- it would be wise to bounce things off of your pastor; see what he thinks of who your thinking of having-
 - a. He can help you avoid mistakes/ guide you through some wise choices.

II HOW OFTEN:

A- One question that comes up is *how often should I have revivals?* The answer depends on a lot of factors.

1. Finances- Especially if you are on support from your mother church
 - a. It is unrealistic to expect/demand a lot of revivals if the mother church can't afford it...
2. Secondly is that you need to experiment- see how revivals go for you-
 - a. That means try a few different types of speakers- Evangelistic/supernatural/experienced etc.
3. You need to find the mind of God for your area.
 - a. Coming into SF- *revivals werent very effective; as I looked back on the list- most that came in were Pastors- NOT evangelists- that makes a difference; As I brought in evangelists- with different dimensions- a shift happened, and they became very effective tools of evangelism... Roc: They hadn't had one in over 2 years, I needed to be strategic.*
 - b. I have prayed and had God deal with me about specific men to bring in- (Artie Aragon SF; 3 times in one year)
 - c. I have been challenged to have some back- who meshed well with NC, but not the older saints- and upon bringing them back- It was timely.
4. But overall- You should have a MINIMUM of 2 per year- and theoretically theres no limit- If they're cranking- and the finances are there.

III HOW TO PREPARE:

A- It can be a good idea to have revivals connected with another event

1. So that if one event draws visitors, then they have already shown interest and are likely to come back to your next event.
 - a. Some will have a revival following a play/crusade/some other major event. *This can be helpful*
2. A second help is to begin outreach/advertisement for your revival 3-4 weeks ahead of time.
 - a. This gives people time to look ahead to the event.
 - i. We need to utilize digital flyers- You can text your invite to your friends & family.
 - b. *We've helped churches outreach for their revival- the Saturday before- worked us like mules, because this was their one shot to get out 5,000 flyers in one day...*
 3. So good preparation helps.