

Rekindling Your Desire For The Lord: A Study In Spiritual Renewal

4 – LET’S TALK

Group Questions

1. What are the struggles that you face when you try to spend time with the Lord? Do you tend to feel that the Lord hears you?
2. What do you think is causing the hinderances to your relationship with the Lord?
3. What can you do to overcome the hinderances?

I. The Lord’s Complaint (Isaiah 1:10-20)

A. The Problem (Isaiah 1:10-15)

- The Lord exposes their true heart condition by referring to them as Sodom and Gomorrah.
- The Lord questions the purpose of their religious actions and sacrifices.
- The Lord hates the hypocrisy of their “so called” spirituality and their sins.
- The Lord states that he will hide from them and not hear their prayers.

B. The Lord’s Request (1:16-18)

- The Lord tells Israel to stop and deal with their sin.
- The Lord tells them to pursue and do that which is good.
- The Lord calls them to get together with Him and talk about this.
- He promises to cleanse their sin and bless them again.

SCRIPTURE 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- If they refuse, they will be judged.

II. Seeking The Lord

A. The Lord’s Desire for the Meeting

SCRIPTURE Proverbs 8:17

I love those who love me, And those who seek me diligently will find me.

- The Lord dearly loves those who love him and will meet with those who seek him.

B. The Manner of Seeking

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SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 29:13

And you will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your heart.

- The Lord states that he will be found by those who seek him with their whole hearts.

C. The Reward

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 11:6

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

- Your faith is the key to seeking the Lord with your whole heart.
- The Lord promises that he will reward those who diligently seek him.

SCRIPTURE Luke 11:13

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

III. Wrong Motives (James 4:2-3)

A. Why Prayer Is Not Answered

- Because of our self-reliance, we don't ask God for anything.
- When we do ask, the Lord does not answer because our motives are selfish.

B. Wrong Motives for Revival

- Revival will clean up our society.
- Revival will restore our culture.
- Revival will make the culture like the church.

C. The Reality of Revival

- Revival will never bring you to some past point, it will bring you to where God wants you to be.

SCRIPTURE John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

Personal Question

Will you make the decision to get serious about seeking God and his renewal in your life?