

## **What is the Day of Prayer for Revival and Spiritual Awakening?**

It is a day for believers to join the psalmist in asking God, “Will you not **revive** us again, that your people may rejoice in you?” (Ps. 85:6). It is a day to allow the Holy Spirit to examine closely one’s motivations and attitudes about following Jesus Christ. It is a day for personal and corporate repentance from sin.

*“But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.” Rev. 2:4*

### **What is Revival?**

It is a renewed commitment to the lordship of Jesus Christ, in a secular culture that minimizes the definition and impact of sin. Only those who already have a relationship with Jesus can be revived. As Christians begin to renew their love for their Savior and Lord, they will focus on His purposes of reaching lost people.

*“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” Luke 19:10 (NKJV)*

### **Why is Repentance Important?**

Unless we are willing to humble ourselves and confess our sins, our relationship with God is hindered. Our sin limits what God can do through us individually and corporately.

*“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” James 5:16 (NKJV)*

*“Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.” Matt. 23:12*

## **What is Spiritual Awakening?**

It is a by-product of the revived church, radiating the light of Jesus, creating an atmosphere conducive to an increased interest in knowing God. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, believers can help awakened people come to know Jesus Christ personally. Awakening results in changed attitudes, hearts overflowing with love, and a desire to be obedient to the Father.

*“Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.” Acts 2:46-47*

### **Why is Prayer Important to this Day?**

As we pray with revived, clean hearts, God works. His Spirit draws the lost to seek Him. Christians can then just harvest what God Himself has produced!

*“‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit’, says the Lord of Hosts.” Zech. 4:6b*

*“For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His” 2 Chr. 16:9*

*“And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.” Matt. 21:22*

### **What Should We Pray?**

- Pray for your church leadership to seek God with their whole hearts. See Acts 6:4

- Pray for a spirit of repentance to fall on individuals and the congregation at large. See Acts 5:11
- Pray for a spirit of forgiveness to permeate the members so that those who may be at odds will be reconciled. See Matt. 6:14-15
- Pray for families within the church to draw close to Jesus and to each other. See Eph. 3:14-21
- Pray for a spirit of humility to replace any pride that has arisen. See Gal. 5:22-25
- Pray for kingdom purposes to be accomplished within your life and through the congregation. See Matt. 6:33
- Pray for a natural turning back to Jesus as the head of the church in all decisions. See Eph. 4:15-16
- Pray for a spirit of surrender to our Father’s will, following the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. See Luke 22:42.
- Pray for lost people to be saved. See 1 Tim 2:1-5

*“My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.” Mark 11:17 (NKJV)*

### **How Can our Church Observe this Day?**

- In advance of the focus day, copy this prayer guide to give to church members. Lead them to pray in one accord for revival in your church and spiritual awakening in your community.
- Issue a call to the whole congregation to come together to pray. It might be only an hour or longer, depending on your church and the spirit of prayer already at work.

- Enlist several churches within the local association to come together for a time of repentance and renewed commitment to our Lord.

### **Great Commission Prayer Ministry**

This day of prayer is one event in an overall Great Commission Prayer Ministry. (Visit [www.namb.net/prayer](http://www.namb.net/prayer) to read the complete booklet by this title.) A Great Commission Prayer Ministry includes three strategic elements. Let these three purpose statements provide direction for your prayer events and activities.

**1. Personal Component.** *Renew a personal passion for Jesus through praying unceasingly (see Psalm 51:10, 1 Thess. 5:17).* As believers begin to practice an unceasing prayer life, prayer assumes its primary and foundational place in the center of their lives. The following two components are much easier if you begin by helping individuals to pray unceasingly.

**2. Corporate Component.** *Reclaim the church as a house of prayer with a passion for lost people (see Mark 11:17, Luke 19:10).* When individuals begin to pray unceasingly they will create a house of prayer. As prayer becomes foundational in a congregation, it will stay more naturally on task with the Great Commission and God's kingdom purposes of reaching the lost world.

**3. Kingdom Component.** *Respond to God's call to unite believers in focused prayer for global evangelization and awakening (see 2 Chron. 7:14; John 17:20-21).* As individuals and churches become houses of prayer with a passion for lost people, they begin

to look toward the worldwide harvest. Churches begin to consider ways to join other congregations in associational, state, national, and international prayer initiatives for evangelization and awakening (National Day of Prayer, See You at The Pole [SYATP], Campus Prayer Journey, IMB day of awakening, IMB focused prayer for Jews, Hindus, Muslims and Buddhists, Lottie Moon Week of Prayer for International Missions, Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer for North American Missions).

#### **NAMB Prayer Resources**

*To order, phone 1-866-407-6262, or visit*

[www.namb.net/prayer](http://www.namb.net/prayer)

*If My People...Pray, Steps to Effective Church Prayer Ministry* To order a copy contact 770 410-6333.

*Taking Prayer to the Streets,* Resource Kit and Pocket Guide in English, Spanish and Korean

Forty-Day Prayer guides:

*Pray For Your Family*

*Pray For Your Pastor*

*Pray For the President and Government Leaders*

*Praying Your Friends to Christ* Instructor's Manual and Prayer Triplet Guide and Training Guide

For other prayer resources, visit [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org) , [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com) or [www.wmu.com](http://www.wmu.com)

## **SBC DAY OF PRAYER**

**for**

## **REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING**

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NKJV)

**Church Implementation Guide**  
Prayer and Spiritual Awakening  
North American Mission Board, SBC  
[www.namb.net/Prayer](http://www.namb.net/Prayer)