

Revitalization At Wahoo

Selected Scripture

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INTRODUCTION: REVITALIZATION

When people speak of something spiritual happening in a fresh way, we often use terms such as “revival” or “awakening” or “revitalization.”

Each term we use carries a specific connotation.

Revival

To bring to life again, to regain religious fervor

Awakening

an act or moment of becoming aware of something

Revitalization

the action of imbuing something with new life and vitality

Two weeks ago, Jim Capaldo, the President of Converge Heartland, met with leaders and representatives of our church to discuss the state of our church and what might be done to revitalize our ministry. It was a long and taxing weekend, but by the end of it, I think everyone involved was encouraged and excited about the prospects for our church.

And while the weekend was hard work and took a lot of mental energy over a short period of time, the real work is ahead of us as we seek to put into practice the things we discussed there, as God allows. This morning, we want to share what we learned, with you so that you can gain the same excitement and join us in the work.

There is nothing supernatural about this process. It is simply a way for us to vocalize and observe what we know to be true about us and to apply biblical principles to moving forward.

I. LOOKING AT THE CHARTS

A. WHAT IS IT THAT WE DO?

B. PATTERNS AND TRENDS

? What was it about this chart that stands out to you?

C. FOUR HELPFUL LISTS

D. ARTICULATING A 3 YEAR VISION

E. OUR 3 YEAR VISION

F. CORE STRATEGIES

G. ACTION PLAN

Summary: These charts tell us that we already own a Bible teaching Culture, a solid worship

culture, a strong leadership culture, but what we are lacking is a Gospel culture.

II. EVALUATING THE CHARTS

These charts won't accomplish what we need to do, but they show us what we need to do and give us steps to take to get things done if we are only willing and if God so blesses.

Notice that much of what we are shooting for isn't immediately tangible

We do know that God wants us to pray desperately. We do know that God wants us to share Christ with our neighbors. We do know that we are responsible for the people He gives us. We are here together right now for this time.

I would be surprised if changed attitudes and renewed focus didn't cause us to grow in numbers. But whether it does or not, I will be more than satisfied if it results in changed action on our part. I will be thrilled if we are praying more and evangelizing more and showing more hospitality because that is what it means to own a gospel culture.

III. THE HARD WORK AHEAD

Perhaps you saw some things on a chart that you know you don't do or don't do well. Perhaps these charts are scary. We are talking about evangelism and the thought of talking to someone about Christ scares you. Perhaps the thought of praying out loud in a group is terrifying. We are going to have to come face to face with attitudes and motivations, but not just in those of us who are

struggling in these areas, but perhaps in those of us who don't appear to struggle at all.

No growth is easy and all growth requires change and pain.

Perhaps we have misconceptions about corporate prayer, evangelism, and hospitality. We will dig deep into Scripture to make sure that we are only doing what God has commanded.

IV. THE NEXT 90 DAYS

Chuck: What did you find valuable about our meeting?

Don: Could you speak to your team's focus?

Tim: Could you speak to the deliverables for evangelism?

W. Scott: Could you speak to the deliverables concerning prayer?