

# **“Recipe for Revival”**

## **Sermon Reflection Questions October 18, 2009**

### **2 Chronicles 7:12-22, Unlocking the Old Testament**

The books of Chronicles are part of the historical book collection along with the Samuels and the Kings. Chronicles tends to look at the same period of history through the lens of worship and thus through the chronology of the building of the temple. In the first book of the Chronicles King David in his retirement years wanted to build a temple to God, but God told David that this was not going to be David’s call but rather that of his son, Solomon.

This passage of study focuses on God’s response to Solomon after the temple is built. The passage tells us that the actual building of the temple was not God’s primary objective, but the spiritual revival of the heart of His people that went along with it.

1. I debated using the word “revival” in the title of the message because sometimes that word has negative connotations for some people. When you hear the word revival what positive or negative images come to your mind?

2. The word revival simply means a renewed life, usually used in a spiritual sense. The concept of revival is what Jesus offers in John 10:10 when He says that He has come to “give life and give it in abundance.” This is a great passage, but what is and is not the abundant life that is offered in Jesus Christ?

3. The first point of the message listed four principles that God gives to instruct the people on what to do regarding their relationship with God. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14 to see these principles in the text. For each of these principles read the additional scripture and in your own words describe the action that God is requiring.

a. Prepare through humility (Ephesians 4:1-2)

b. Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

c. Passion for Devotion (Colossians 3:1-2)

d. Purity through repentance (Revelation 3:19)

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4. What is one way you could apply to a greater extent each of these principles to your own lives?

a. Prepare through humility

b. Prayer

c. Passion for Devotion

d. Purity through repentance

5. Below are the promises that God gave to His people when they applied the principles in their life. In what way do these promises apply today?

a. Hear your prayer (See also 1 John 3:21-22)

b. Forgive your sin (See also 1 John 1:9)

c. Heal your land

6. What warning was issued to the people in 2 Chronicles 7:19-22 and how does that warning apply to our lives today?

7. What would occur if our whole congregation applied the principles of revival to our lives?