

C3 LEADERS QUESTIONS

F2020-WEEK 6

10/5/20

Getting Started with a Warm-Up: (Pick one of these questions)

- What spiritual struggle have you faced this week? *(For leaders: Please take a moment and offer to pray for those who have shared about their struggles.)*
- What is the most memorable/powerful spiritual experience you've had? *(For leaders: Remember a revival is a very powerful spiritual experience.)*
- Thinking back over this series on revival, what is the greatest thing you have learned or been impacted by? *(For leaders: Briefly review your notes from the past weeks.)*

Getting Down to Business:

The following questions are following this format: Scripture, Observation, Application, and Prayer (SOAP).

(For leaders: 7 They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, 8 and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! 9 Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, 10 Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!" 12 They stood there amazed and perplexed. "What can this mean?" they asked each other. 13 But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, "They're just drunk, that's all!" 14 Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. 15 These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o'clock in the morning is much too early for that. 16 No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel."
Acts 2:13-16, NLT)

37 Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" 38 Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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39 This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God.” 40 Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation!” 41 Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all. Acts 2:37-41)

Below is an excerpt from the The Bible Panorama commentary that you can access by following the link after the excerpt.

V 5–13: STAGGERED The multi-national population of Jerusalem is staggered as they hear in their own language the wonderful message of God. The ‘tongues’ given to the disciples are many other discernible languages which the disciples did not normally speak and had not learned. Some ignorantly suggest that the disciples are drunk!

V 14–21: SCRIPTURE Peter takes the opportunity to show that they are not drunk but that this amazing occurrence is a fulfilment of Old Testament Scripture. Any valid spiritual experience must be based upon God’s Word.

V 37: SMITTEN The message of the Lord Jesus Christ cuts the hearers to the heart and they ask Peter and the apostles what they must do.

V 38–40: SALVATION Peter urges them to be saved, to take advantage of God’s promise, and to repent of their sins. This repentance and faith in Christ will be manifest in baptism in the name of Christ. This will underline the remission of sins, which is given to all who trust in Him. Those who are saved receive the gift of the Holy Spirit as their birthright. Peter earnestly urges his hearers to be saved.

V 41–45: STEADFASTNESS Approximately three thousand people come to God and are baptised. The evidence of their conversion is a steadfast continuing in the apostles’ doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayers. God-honouring fear and open-hearted oneness in sharing demonstrate that God has changed their hearts in saving them through Christ.

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+2&version=NLT>)

- 1) **Scripture:** Read Acts 2:7-16. A. What are the two different reactions to the work of the Holy Spirit that you see from the people? (Hint: vv. 7, 12 and v. 13)
B. In Acts 2:36-41 where do these works of the Holy Spirit--conviction, repentance and salvation--show up?

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- 2) **Observation:** Read John 18:15-18, 25-27. What changed Peter from being a denier of Jesus to being a defender of Jesus? (*For Leaders: Hint: Acts 2:1-4.*)

(For Leaders: 15 Simon Peter followed Jesus, as did another of the disciples. That other disciple was acquainted with the high priest, so he was allowed to enter the high priest's courtyard with Jesus. 16 Peter had to stay outside the gate. Then the disciple who knew the high priest spoke to the woman watching at the gate, and she let Peter in. 17 The woman asked Peter, "You're not one of that man's disciples, are you?" "No," he said, "I am not." 18 Because it was cold, the household servants and the guards had made a charcoal fire. They stood around it, warming themselves, and Peter stood with them, warming himself. ...25 Meanwhile, as Simon Peter was standing by the fire warming himself, they asked him again, "You're not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it, saying, "No, I am not." 26 But one of the household slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Didn't I see you out there in the olive grove with Jesus?" 27 Again Peter denied it. And immediately a rooster crowed. [John 18:15-18, 25-27].

1 On the day of Pentecost[a] all the believers were meeting together in one place. 2 Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. 3 Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. 4 And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. [Acts 2:1-4]

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John 18:15-18, 25-27

V 25–27: DISCIPLESHIP AND DENIALS Twice more Peter denies that he is a disciple of Jesus. As Jesus predicted, the rooster crows.

V 12–18: TRIAL AND TEMPTATION He is led to influential Annas, the father-in-law of the current high priest, Caiaphas. Annas is also known by the title 'high priest', having held that office before Caiaphas. Peter fails his first temptation and denies Christ to a servant girl, while warming himself with the servants and officers.

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+18&version=NLT>)

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Acts 2:1-4

V 1–4: SPIRIT The Day of Pentecost comes fifty days after the Sabbath in Passover week. When this historical Lord's day arrives, God sends His Holy Spirit in a remarkable way as the followers of Jesus are praying together. He appears as 'divided tongues, as a fire'. Each person is filled with the Holy Spirit and begins to speak with other tongues, as enabled by the Spirit.

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+2&version=NLT>)

- 3) **Application:** What reminders can we use to stay focused on and sensitive to a need for revival? (*For leaders: Review Scripture from Psalm 85 and Acts 2*)
- 4) **Prayer:** Once again, guide your group in prayer to God. As we conclude this series on revival, let's pray that we would review these Scriptures often and continue to pray for a revival.