REVIVAL NOW

YOUR ROLE IN THE NEXT GREAT AWAKENING



JOHN S. DICKERSON

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e.

VISUALS

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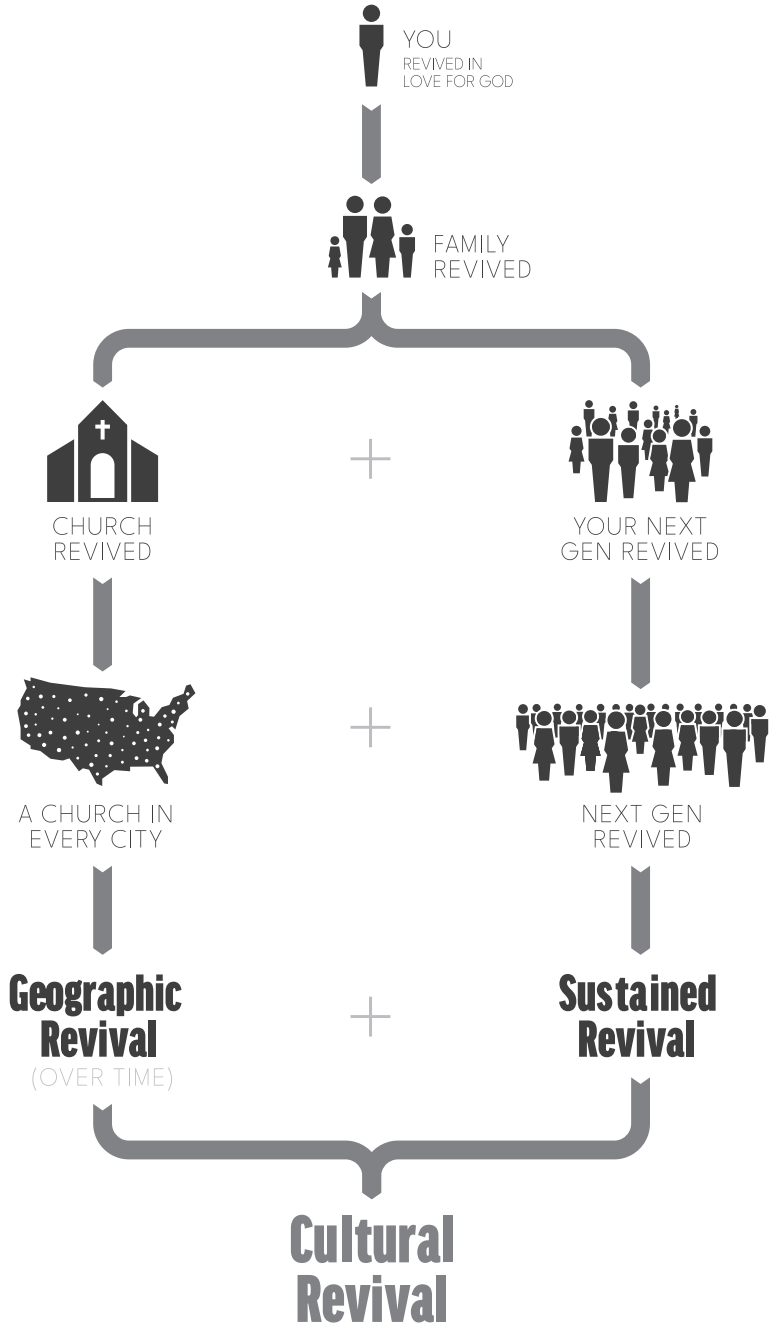
WHAT


YOU
REVIVED IN
LOVE FOR GOD
FAMILY
REVIVED
CHURCH
REVIVED
YOUR NEXT
GEN REVIVED
A CHURCH IN
EVERY CITY
NEXT GEN
REVIVED
Geographic
Revival
(OVER TIME)
Sustained
Revival
Cultural
Revival

HOW

REVIVAL PRACTICES



REVIVAL PRACTICES INCLUDING
KIDS & GRANDKIDS



CONGREGATION OF PEOPLE
LIVING REVIVAL PRACTICES
+
YOUTH WORLDVIEW



OBEY GOD FAITHFULLY IN YOUR
CITY WHILE PRAYING BOLDLY FOR
A REVIVED CHURCH IN EVERY CITY



PRAYING & WORKING TOWARD
REVIVAL IN THE NATION

Practice 1: Urgent and Dependent

1.1

HAVE WE SEEN THIS BEFORE?

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
Isaiah 6:8

There's a story I keep coming back to. It happened three thousand years ago in a valley in Israel. I'm convinced it's one of the most important revival stories ever told, even though most people don't recognize it as a revival story at all.

A shepherd boy is delivering food to his brothers on the front lines of a battlefield. That's his whole assignment. He is not a soldier. He has no military credentials. No special equipment.

David shows up as the ancient equivalent of a DoorDash driver carrying what I can only describe as a charcuterie board.[1] Meanwhile, hardened military men are trembling in their tents.

A giant named Goliath, a bloodstained warrior, has been taunting the armies of Israel for forty days. Even King Saul is paralyzed by fear. Yet David steps onto the battlefield and faces him.

What made the difference?

Why could David do what thousands of trained soldiers could not?

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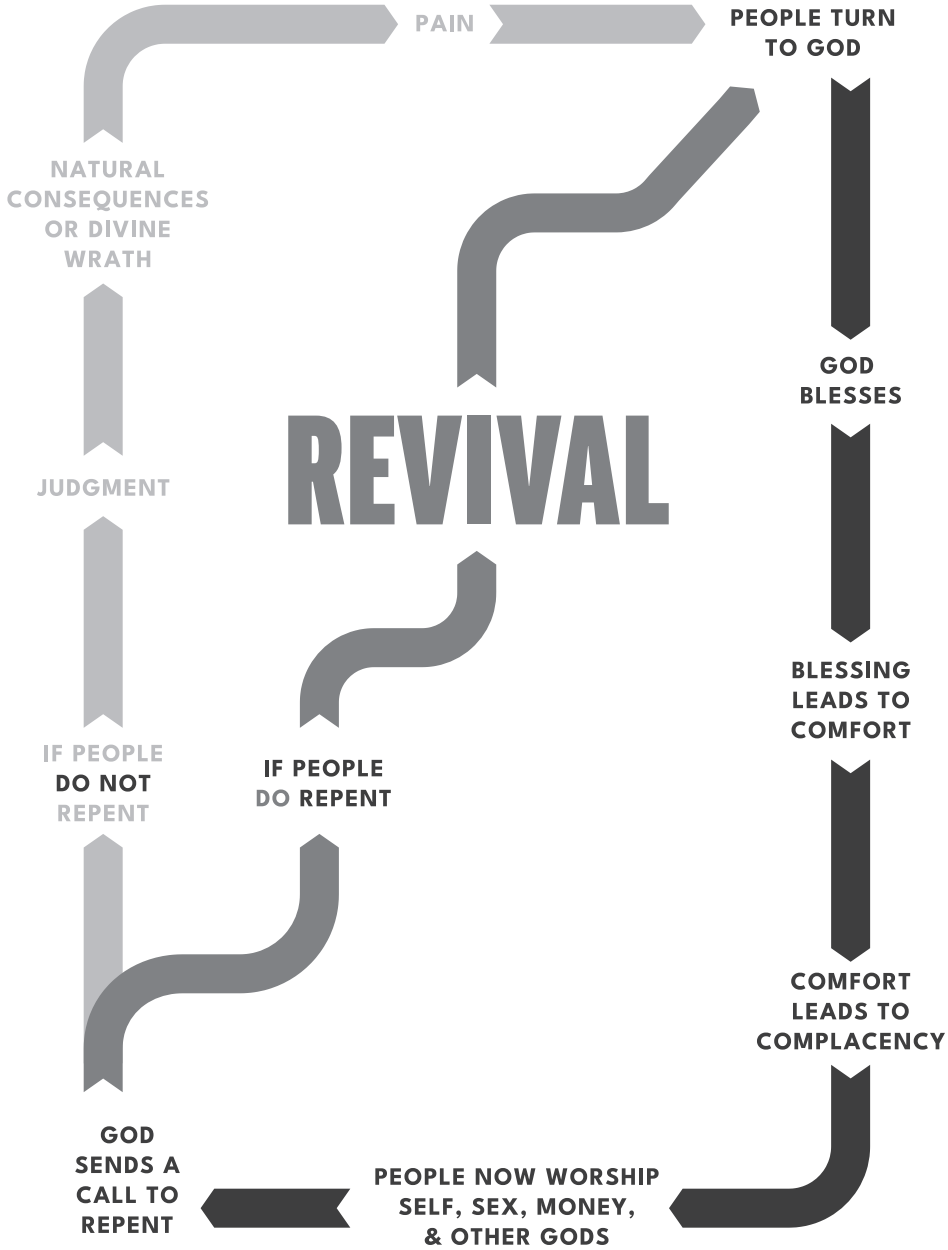
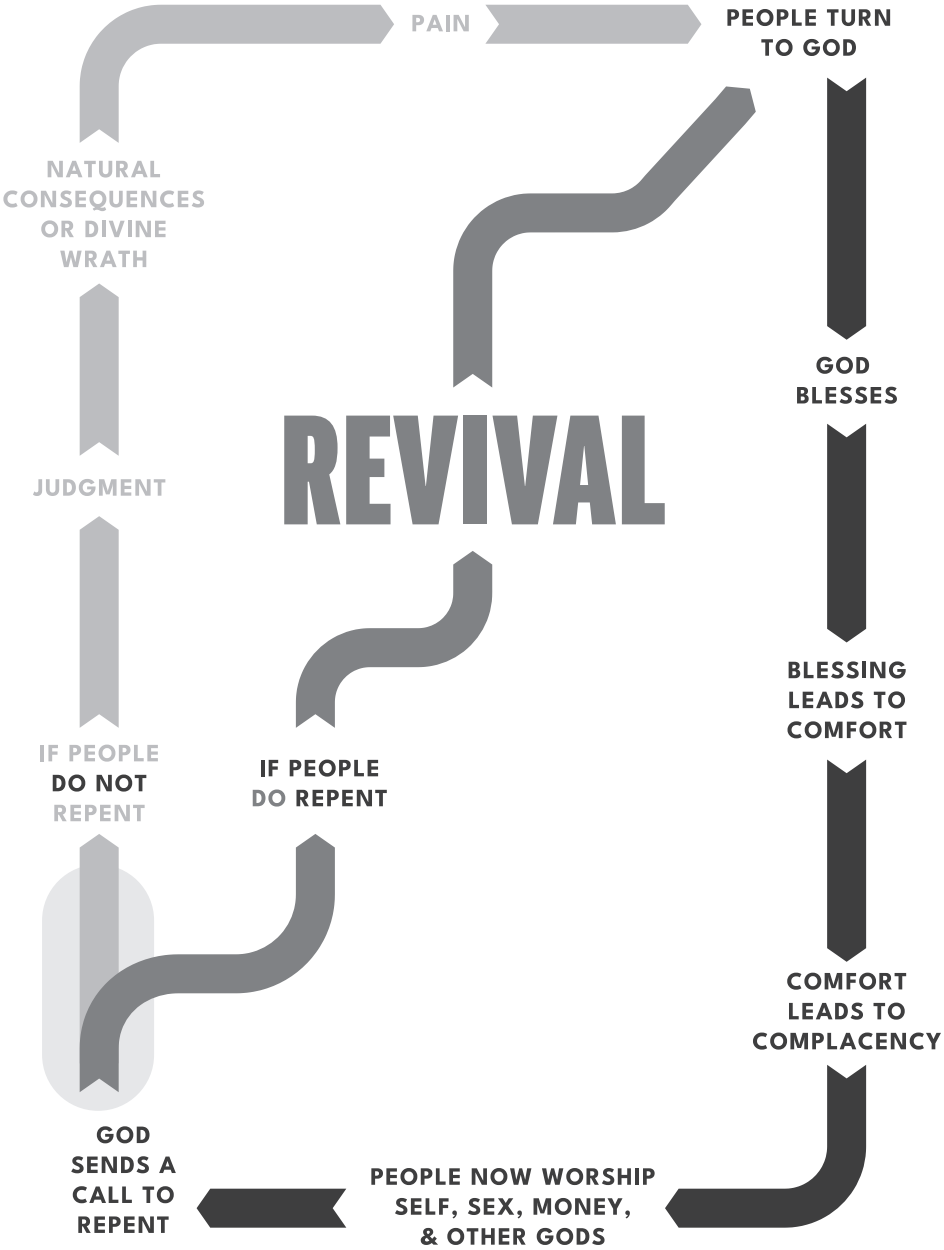
THE BLESSING-JUDGMENT CYCLE

OF INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS



THE BLESSING-JUDGMENT CYCLE

OF INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS



THE BLESSING-JUDGMENT CYCLE

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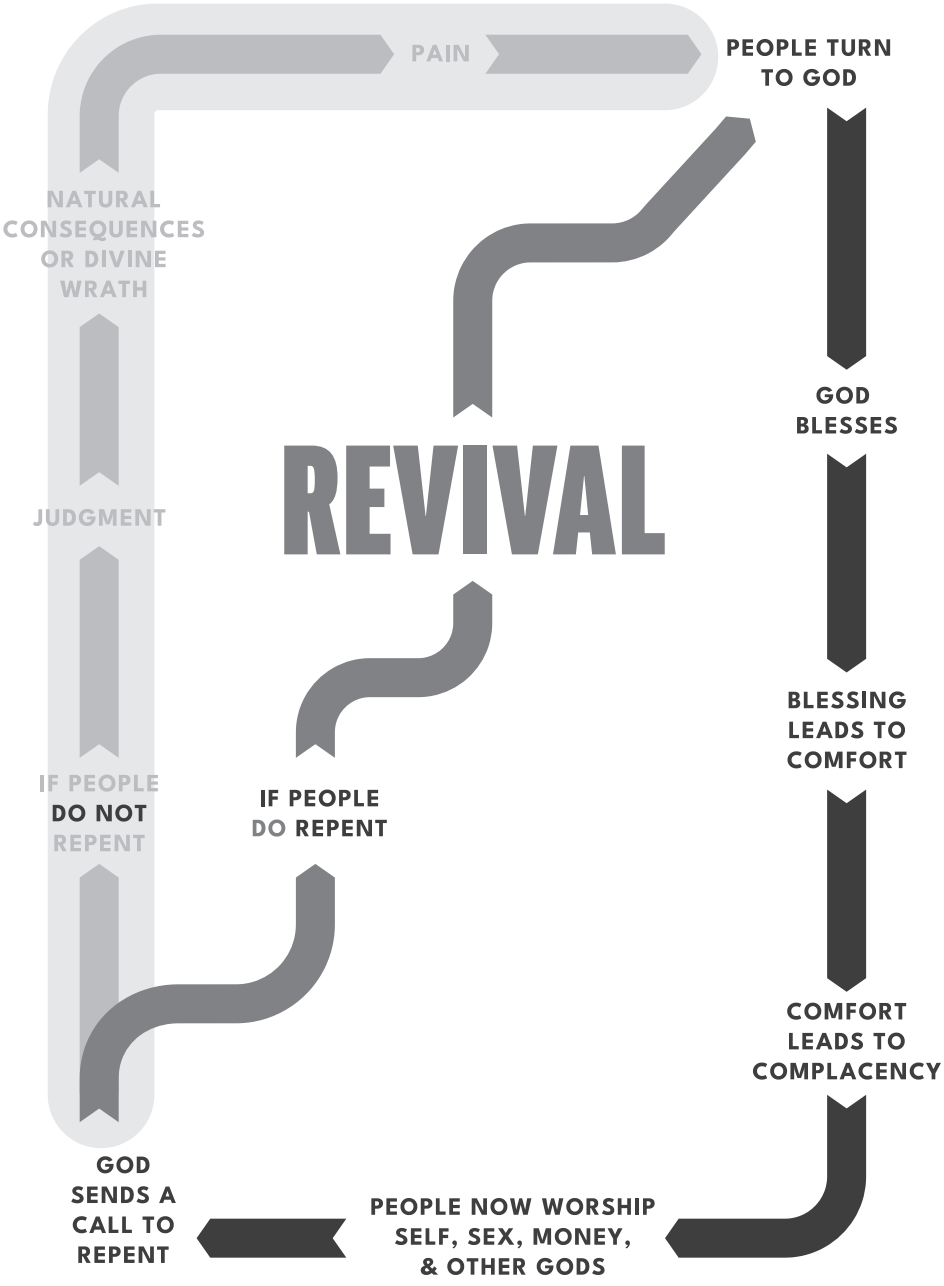

Appendix A.1

TOOLS FOR A REVIVAL LIFESTYLE

Be the first to know when the next Revival book releases by following on social media: @JohnSDickerson.

The following tools are now available at TheRevivalProject.org/book1:

- *40 Days to Revival: Your Personal Great Awakening, An Interactive Study Guide*
- *40 Days to Revival:* 6-Week Small Group Streaming Video Study
- One year of Revival daily video devotionals
- *Revival:* 6-Week Churchwide Sermon Series materials, manuscripts, slides
- Youth Worldview Curriculum
- Personal Prayer Station Materials
- And more ...

The tools above all accompany this first book, *Revival Now*. As additional books release, we plan to provide similar tools for each Revival book, so your church or group can continue growing in the revival lifestyle for many years.

Help fund the vision for Revival by visiting TheRevivalProject.org/donors.



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Appendix A.2

REVIVAL PRAYERS

Daily Revival Prayer

Father, I boldly pray today for a Revival of
Christianity in the United States.
I surrender myself to be used by You in this.

Use me and our church to raise up spiritual
leaders in the Next Generation.

As we preach Your Word and lift Jesus high,
bring Revival in our hearts, our
church, our cities, our region,
our next generation, and our nation.

I claim Jesus' promise when He said,
"Whatever you ask the Father in my name,
this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son"
(John 14:13).

Download printable copies at TheRevivalProject.org/book1.

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Salvation Prayer List:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Day of the Week Prayers

Place this at your Prayer Station and simply pray the day of the week, each day.

MONDAY: Urgent and Dependent Posture: Lord, help me have Your urgency for how desperately this world needs Your Kingdom. Demons and deception never rest in destroying my neighbors and nation. As I depend fully on You, strengthen me to act with urgency for Your Kingdom. Protect my church and fellow believers. Empower me as You empowered David, Samson, Peter, and Paul.

TUESDAY: Ongoing Repentance for Relationship: Lord, I purpose in my heart to have no other god before You. Reveal to me any person or thing that I have worshipped above You or looked to for security, identity, and fulfillment. I cast those idols down and choose to worship You in first place. I choose to love You with all my heart, all my soul, all my strength, and all my mind.

WEDNESDAY: Kingdom Prayer: Lord, continue growing me to pray for souls, salvations, spiritual matters. Keep opening my eyes to see people as eternal souls. Lead me today to pray for growth in the believers I see and for spiritual dominion of Your Kingdom in my city, area schools, businesses, and region.

THURSDAY: Brokenhearted Boldness: Lord, I need Your compassion for the souls around me. Give me Your love for people, and give me boldness to open my mouth and ask spiritual questions, to invite people to You. Keep me faithful to pray daily for each soul on my Salvation Prayer List.

FRIDAY: Raising the Next Generation: Lord, I pray for the young people in my church, family, and life. Set them apart and protect them. Help them choose You and Your Word. Empower them to lead lasting revival for Your Kingdom. Use them to lead this nation to You, and show me how to invest into them.

SATURDAY: Decades, Not Days: Lord, the world around me has such a short attention span, but I know that You work across generations and decades. Grant me perseverance to faithfully do my part in revival, every single day, for the rest of my time on earth, until I see you face to face. Raise up "a church in every city" that is revived and awake. Help us persevere in Your work over generations.

SUNDAY: The Lord's Day: Father, on this day when Jesus rose from the dead, fill our congregation with Your resurrection power. Holy Spirit, be fanned into flame. Anoint the preaching of Your Word and the worship of Your name so that lost souls come to salvation today and so that believers are stirred, awakened, and revived in our love for You. Give strength and protection to my pastors. Grant me the faith and urgency of those first apostles in Acts, after they saw You risen from the dead.

Next Generation Prayer List:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Appendix A.3

ADVICE AND METHODOLOGY

If you could go back in time ten years—and give yourself advice—what would you tell yourself?

This revival journey hasn't been easy for me, but oh how it has been worth it.

If I could go back in time—to the days when these Revival Practices were taking shape in my daily life, when I was getting serious about obeying them—what would I tell myself?

I think my advice would be this:

1: His yoke is easy. Focus on walking closely with Jesus, not accomplishing results.
2: Jesus wins. So our hope is not the scoreboard, but the end of the game.
3: We should be found working when Christ returns. Jesus winning in the end is not an excuse for laziness, emotional self-indulgence, or passivity. Jesus' parables make this undeniably clear.

1: His yoke is easy.

You will have to depend on Jesus like never before, to live these Revival Practices. Jesus carries the yoke—that giant wooden collar connecting His neck to yours.

So stay close to Him in the spirit of John 15, abiding in the Vine. Don't shoulder the weight of your revival burden alone. It's too heavy for you to carry without Jesus. But in Christ ... in Christ, you can do all the good things He has prepared in advance for you to do.

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2: Jesus wins.

On the days when you feel like all the Kingdom effort isn't working, remind yourself that Jesus wins. Read Psalm 2. Our ultimate goal is not an outcome, even one as virtuous as "revival." Our goal is faithfulness to Christ and His Great Commission, to love the Lord our God with all that we are.

When discouragement strikes, tell your closest believing friends. Gather with them to pray Kingdom Prayers together. Also, reread the scriptures about Jesus' return. Reread 1 Thessalonians 4 and 1 Peter. Reread Daniel and Revelation. Remind yourself that Christ will return in the clouds. And purpose in your heart to be found faithful when He does.[1]

3: We should be found working when He returns.

Jesus' parables emphasize us working hard for His Kingdom, far more than many American Christians today would like to admit. This is not salvation by works, but this is working from our identity in Christ's Kingdom.

Working for the Kingdom is, after all, the very purpose for which we've been left on this fallen earth, which is not our home.

The managers and talents,
The bridal party awaiting the groom,
The manager of the vineyard,
The parables are many.

May we be found multiplying our talents.
May we be found with oil in our lamps.
May we be managing well the portions of His Kingdom
vineyard entrusted to each of us.

Methodology

What has been the methodology for the revival thesis in this book? The sociological and cultural framework for this book grew from twenty years of work as a researcher and trained investigative journalist, including three of my in-depth research books: *Jesus Skeptic*, *Hope of Nations*, and *The Great Evangelical Recession*. If you've enjoyed this book, you will likely enjoy those books also.

Other Revival Factors

About twenty factors tend to precede revivals throughout history. The Revival Practices are the most practical for all Christians. Some additional factors are particularly applicable to pastors and ministry leaders. These may surface in future books, but for now, here is an overview of some factors that leaders can expect as they pursue revival.

- Opposition, spiritual.
- Opposition, human, from non-Christians.
- Opposition, human, from other Christians.
- Bold Bible preaching is always part of revival.
- Unity with other Christians—who disagree about nonessential matters—is also a consistent theme in lasting revival. Look for other area churches that could also begin praying and working for revival.
- Spiritual leadership. Parents, pastors, and spiritual leaders of all kinds must continue dying to self to choose revival in our own hearts. If we want our families, churches, loved ones, or nation to experience transformative revival, we must daily tend to our own hearts and continue joining God in revival there.

