

# All About Jesus Revival Seminar

## #11 - *Surviving a Revival Seminar*

1. Roots
  - a. Matthew 13:5-6 - No roots - Wither
  - b. Psalm 1:3 - Good roots - Thrive
  - c. Matthew 12:43-45 - Danger of emptinessSee also: Desire of Ages, p.83.3 - Many attend religious services, and are refreshed and comforted by the word of God; but through neglect of meditation, watchfulness, and prayer, they lose the blessing, and find themselves more destitute than before they received it. Often they feel that God has dealt hardly with them. They do not see that the fault is their own. By separating themselves from Jesus, they have shut away the light of His presence.
2. For success - Significant effort must follow the initial investment
  - a. John 16:21 - Having a baby vs. raising a child
  - b. 1 Timothy 6:12 - Fight the fight of FAITH
  - c. John 6:29 - Work on BELIEVING
  - d. Effort is required - But the effort is in the area of relationship - not behavior
3. One thing is needful - Luke 10:38-42 - Mary vs. Martha - Sitting at Jesus' feet  
See also: Desire of Ages, p.525.2 - The cause of Christ needs careful, energetic workers. There is a wide field for the Marthas, with their zeal in active religious work. But let them first sit with Mary at the feet of Jesus.
4. Gospel according to Mary
  - a. Luke 10:39 - Mary sat at Jesus' feet
  - b. Mark 16:9 - Jesus cast seven demons out of Mary
  - c. Mark 14:3 - Mary anoints Jesus feet
  - d. John 11:32 - Mary falls at Jesus feet
  - e. John 19:25 - Mary was at the foot of the cross
  - f. John 20:11 - Mary is first to the tomb
  - g. John 20:17 - Mary clings to Jesus
5. Working at Resting
  - a. Hebrews 4:11 - Be diligent to enter that rest
  - b. Matthew 11:28-29 - Come unto me - and I will "rest" you
6. Christianity, though based on a personal relationship, is not a solitary pursuit
  - a. The Church
    - 1) Colossians 1:18 - Jesus is head of the body, the church
    - 2) 1 Corinthians 12:27 - We are members individually of the body of Christ
    - 3) ek-klāsia - The "called out" ones
      - a) Never refers to a BUILDING
      - b) Never refers to an EVENT
      - c) Always refers to the PEOPLE
    - 4) So if you are in CHRIST - You are in the CHURCH - Connected to other PEOPLE
    - 5) Corporate spiritual experience is not optional
  - b. House churches = Small Groups
    - 1) Acts 8:3 - Paul made havoc of the church, entering every house...
    - 2) Romans 16:3-5 - Greet Priscilla and Aquila...also greet the church that is in their house
    - 3) 1 Corinthians 16:19 - Aquila and Priscilla greet you... with the church that is in their house.
    - 4) Colossians 4:15 - Greet...Nymph(s) and the church that is in her(his) house.
    - 5) Philemon 2 - To Archippus...and to the church in your house...
    - 6) 1 Corinthians 1:26 - Not many wealthy became Christians - Therefore mostly small homes to meet in
  - c. If 1 Corinthians 14 is typical - Church gatherings were more informal group experience  
Participatory - Spontaneous - Free-wheeling - More sharing than presenting - Even chaotic

## 7. Small Group Basics

- a. 6-12 people – by Personal invitation
- b. Meet weekly – any convenient day and time
- c. Any people mix: Men - Women - Couples - Kids - Families - Retirees - Teens
- d. Meet wherever convenient: Home - Church - Café - Lunch room
- e. Term: 8-12 weeks - Limited engagement
- f. At end of term: Stop - but don't quit - Multiply
- g. 90 minutes: 3-leg Stool with a group - Daily devotions on steroids
  - 1) 1<sup>st</sup> third: Sharing - Fresh life stories - Bubbling over
  - 2) 2<sup>nd</sup> third: Praying - Conversational - *Prayed* requests
  - 3) 3<sup>rd</sup> third: Exploring - Bible only - Gospels only - Weekly surpriseNOTE: Never “go around the circle” when you share / pray / read - Always random
- h. S.O.A.P. - for Exploring time
  - 1) **S** = Scripture: Story from Jesus' life - No pre-study - Just pre-pray
    - a) Read random - One verse per person - From whatever version each one has
    - b) If needed - Read again - “Read a different verse than the one you read the first time through”
  - 2) **O** = Observe: Imagine together - Share - Let story come alive  
See also: SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 6, p.1085 - on 1 Corinthians 2:9 - Letter 4, 1885  
You need to dwell upon the assurances of God's Word, to hold them before the mind's eye. Point by point, day by day, repeat the lessons there given, over and over, until you learn the bearing and import of them. We see a little today, and by meditation and prayer, more tomorrow. And thus little by little we take in the gracious promises until we can almost comprehend their full significance.  
Oh, how much we lose by not educating the imagination to dwell upon divine things, rather than upon the earthly! We may give fullest scope to the imagination, and yet, "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." Fresh wonders will be revealed to the mind the more closely we apply it to divine things. We lose much by not talking more of Jesus and of heaven, the saints' inheritance. The more we contemplate heavenly things, the more new delights we shall see, and the more will our hearts be brimful of thanks to our beneficent Creator.
  - 3) **A** = Apply: Jesus' personal word to me right now from this passage
  - 4) **P** = Pray: Open our eyes to opportunities to touch others this week
- i. Safe place: for new people to discover “church”
  - 1) Make friends
  - 2) Safe place to invite non-members
  - 3) Entry point - for those who would not come to a large church event
- j. Modeling: How to spend time with Jesus - Alone - or in a Group
  - 1) Those already spending personal daily time with Jesus - experience the value of “church”
  - 2) Those not yet spending personal daily time with Jesus - experience what can also happen alone with God

## 8. As a Leader - NO TRAINING NEEDED

- a. Just pre-pray - For meeting and group members
- b. Then select a passage - but do not prepare a lesson
- c. Expect the Holy Spirit to speak to the group in the moment

## 9. Endurance required - Small groups won't happen by accident - or through casual attempts

- a. Hebrews 10:36 - NIV - Persevere
- b. 1 Timothy 4:15-16 - NASB - Persist
- c. 1 Corinthians 9:25 - NLT - Disciplined
- d. Philippians 3:8-10 - Singular focus - “that I may know Him”