

“Greeting Team”

For Sunday, December 3rd

Remember: Meet in the coat room @ **10:30 am** for brief prayer & then go “welcome” people! NOTE: Keep an eye on the auditorium for those who slipped past!

Greeters this week:

Odin Dart Thursday Night;

Thurs Night Ladies Group

- 1st— Odin Dart Thursday Night; Ladies Group Thursday Night
- 2nd— Justin Taylor Sunday Night;
- 3rd—Randy Ehlers Monday Night;
- 4th—Curt Mastbergen Sunday Noon; Tackett Sunday Night

Small Groups @ MBC

*Are Committed To
Developing New Leaders
Through
Apprenticeship—
Small Group Leaders
Are Intentional About
Reproducing Themselves*

Announcements

1. On The Church Calendar This Week: “Chili Supper & Christmas Decorating” December 2, 5:30 PM
2. Also On The Church Calendar: Our Annual “Christmas Eve Service” December 24t 6-7:00 PM

Daniel: What Revival Looks Like

(Note: This continues a series of posts on Daniel’s life) I don’t know that there’s a more beautiful & spiritually moving prayer than Daniel’s prayer in the 9th chapter of the book named after him. There’s a humility & a brokenness that’s often missing from the hurried & self-centered prayers of our day! When revival occurs in the hearts of believers, this is what it looks like! Prayer, uttered by a revived saint, admits brokenness & even public shame over their sin, selfishness, and idolatry— “*Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but this day public shame belongs to us: the men of Judah, the residents of Jerusalem, and all Israel— those who are near and those who are far, in all the countries where You have dispersed them because of the disloyalty they have shown toward You. Lord, public shame belongs to us, our kings, our leaders, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against Him and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following His instructions that He set before us through His servants the prophets. All Israel has broken Your law and turned away, refusing to obey You*” (Daniel 9:7-11). Wow! What brokenness & transparency! “...PUBLIC SHAME belongs to us...” he confessed in v.7; and, in v.8 he says it again, “...PUBLIC SHAME belongs to us...” Daniel’s greatness, in the eyes of God, was not because he was without sin! None of us are! It was Daniel’s sensitivity to his sin! He admitted the depth of his sinful depravity! He owned it! For our world— and, our NATION— to experience revival, it has to begin with the broken humility of God’s people! With us! We, the Church, have to take ownership of our sins— for our IDOLATRY; and quit pointing judgmental fingers at all the unbelievers around us! We need to repent of our failure to love all the world’s people groups & every kind of sinner! Daniel didn’t just throw “...our kings, our leaders & our fathers...” under the bad sinner bus (v.8). He said, “...WE have sinned against You... WE have rebelled against you...” (v.9). I fear the American church has been too preoccupied with pointing fingers at political leaders when WE are the real problem! We should be looking in the mirror, spiritually speaking! God will only use a broken church to bring the world to revival! What this unbelieving world needs is for God to first revive church leaders across our land, as He did the Prophet Daniel, who will then faithfully call out the church to repentance!



Concern For God’s Reputation

Daniel was concerned that Israel had hurt God’s reputation in the world! “*LORD, bring revival to your people,*” Daniel prays, “...for the LORD’S sake” (v.17); “...make us a city called by YOUR name” (v.18); “*LORD, HEAR! LORD, FORGIVE! LORD, ACT...*” (v.19). Did you notice that? “...for YOUR SAKE”, Daniel prayed, “*We base our prayers on YOUR abundant compassion*” (v.18). Do you pray like that? I’m afraid that, for most of my life, my prayers sounded nothing like that! Is it possible that the reason so many of our prayers go “unanswered” is because we’re not offering “God-centered” prayers? Can we begin to pray, as Christ’s Church, that God would act in HIS own BEST INTEREST? And, for HIS GLORY? Will you trust Him? Trust Him that everything He does for His best interest is also in OUR best interest. He can be trusted!