



7-DAY DEVOTIONAL PRAYER GUIDE ABOUT THE HEART:

"2 Chronicles 7:14"

A focused look at 2 Chronicles 7:14

by Dr. Tim Sieberhagen



WRITER'S BIO

Dr. Tim Sieberhagen is pastor of Kittiwake Baptist Church (SC). Including as a pastor, he has served in church staff positions in NC and SC. He is trained in the Revitalization/Replanting process of the North American Mission Board, SBC. He is a key member of the Revitalization Team of the Lexington Baptist Association (SC).

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NOTES

Day 1 God’s Recipe for Revival
 Tim Sieberhagen

Read II Chronicles 7:14

***“If my people, who are called by my name,** will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” (NIV)*

We desperately need our nation to turn back to God, but it must begin in the church. The call of God in this verse is addressed to those who are known by God’s name. It is a call to turn back to him. The hope of the world does not lie in human government, civic organizations, or self-help groups. Jesus said the church would represent the hope of the world. Revival can only occur when we do what God requires. Before God can reform our nation, the church must get its own house in order.

This verse begins with the word “IF”. Everything that follows hinges on that one word. God is both willing and able to heal our land, but the fulfillment of this promise will not occur until His conditions are met. When the conditions are met, God will honor his promise.

Jesus promised that he would build his church and the gates of hell would not prevail against it. We have forgotten what powerful things we can do when we stand beside our omnipotent partner. It’s time we remember again.

Prayer

Pray that we will fulfill the requirements of God so we can see revival in our land.

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NOTES

Horizontal lines for taking notes.

Day 3

The Power of Prayer
Tim Sieberhagen

Read II Chronicles 7:14

*"If my people, who are called by my name, **will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.**"*

No revival has ever occurred without prayer. Priscilla Shirer says, "Prayer is the portal that brings the power of heaven down to earth. It is kryptonite to the enemy and to all his ploys against you." Our prayers move the heart and hand of God. Since God is all-powerful, there is no limit as to what prayer can do.

Christians are feeble in their own strength but become mighty when they pray. William Cowper said, "Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon their knees." No wonder our enemy works so hard to keep us from praying!

The power of prayer does not flow from us; it is not special words we say or the special way we say them or even how often we say them. The power of prayer comes from the all-powerful Savior who hears our prayers and answers them. Prayer places us in contact with Almighty God, and we should expect almighty results.

Jesse Penn-Lewis writes, "If there was a revival of prayer among the people of God, there would soon be a revival of blessing in the world." Will you commit to ask God for a revival of prayer in your life and the church?

Prayer

We repent of our lack of prayer and pray that God may lead us to seek Him again.

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Day 4

Seeking God's Face

Tim Sieberhagen

Read II Chronicles 7:14

*"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray **and seek my face** and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."*

In the Old Testament, whenever God was pleased with His people, His pleasure was expressed by saying He turned His face toward them. The focus of our praying should be to seek the face of God. Too often our prayers are focused on seeking God's hand and not his face. We are concerned with getting bigger and better things for the comforts of life. We ask to bless us God without condition. Our prayers become focused on the things we want. James 4:3 reminds us, *"When you ask you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."*

To seek God's face is to seek God's will. Prayer is not an exercise where we bend God's will and make it fit our own. Prayer is seeking the will of God and following it. Prayer is the way of getting God's will done on the earth. God longs to bless his people, but we must come to the place where we can know the will of God. Successful prayer is finding the will of God and getting in on it. 1 John 5:14 says, *"Now this is the confidence that we have in him that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us."*

Are your prayers Centered around what you want or are they focused on what God wants?

Prayer

Pray that we would be motivated to seek the face and not just the hand of God.

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Day 5

Turning from Sin
Tim Sieberhagen

Read II Chronicles 7:14

*"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and **turn from their wicked ways**, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."*

The testimony of history is that when sin is present God's blessing is withheld. God will not work where sin remains in His people. It is clear, that sin has entered the church and Scripture states that judgement must begin at the house of God. We are quick to condemn the world for its sin but fail to see our own.

In every revival in history, "turning from sin" has been a predominant feature among the people of God. In both Old and New Testament revivals there are three elements that are always present: 1) Conviction of sin was real and deep. 2) Sin was openly confessed. 3) Repentance was experienced as they turned away from the sin they confessed.

We talk about revival, we want it, we need it, but we must understand that God will not answer our prayer for revival where sin remains.

Do you want to see revival come to the church? It must begin with you. Are you willing to pray what David prayed in Psalm 139:23-24?

Prayer

"Search me, O God and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

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NOTES

Day 6 The Blessings of God
Tim Sieberhagen

Read II Chronicles 7:14

*"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then **I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.**"*

The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God is all powerful and loves to work on behalf of His people when he says, *"Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."* We have the limitless power of God at our disposal, and we cannot leave it locked up in Heaven. When we fulfill His requirements, He is willing to do great things among us. We have the answer that will eliminate corruption, greed and violence in our culture.

When the people of God meet the conditions of God his promises are released upon them. Once that happens, the effects will flow to the rest of the population. In 2 Chronicles He gives us a three-fold promise: 1) He will hear our prayer. 2) He will forgive our sin. 3) He will heal our land. These promises are spoken from the mouth of God Himself and none of His promises have ever failed. There is no uncertainty here. He states clearly what He WILL do. He always keeps His Word.

Prayer

Father, forgive me for the times that I assume either consciously or subconsciously that my worth comes from what I can do or what I have done. Help me to remember, though many times it seems contrary to what I feel, that my value comes from what Christ has done on my behalf and has secured for me. Amen.

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Horizontal lines for taking notes.

Day 7

Let Revival Begin
Tim Sieberhagen

Read II Chronicles 7:14

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

God has an answer to every problem America faces. All we need is His favor and His guidance. But it all depends on the Church: "if My people who are called by My name...." We must respond to that call and encourage others to do likewise. That is where the solution begins. God is not waiting for unbelievers in America to get their act together. America's future depends on what the Church does. If the Church is nothing more than a polished reflection of the fallen culture, then it will have little positive impact. If the Church takes the right action, revival will take place that transforms the culture.

The recipe for revival has never changed. The Scripture makes it clear that the answer will not be found in the White House, the courthouse or the schoolhouse but it will be found in the church house, in your house and in my house. Will you respond to the call? Will you be part of the answer? The promises are there, waiting to be fulfilled, **IF** we meet God's requirements.

Prayer

Ask God to enable you to become an instrument of revival in this generation.