

Will You not revive us again,
that Your people may rejoice in You?

Psalm 85:6

Revival

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Couple of questions:

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And how can we begin the process of revival today?

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A revival refers to a spiritual awakening from a state of dormancy or stagnation in the life of a believer.

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It is taking God at His Word and living one's life in accordance with His truth, and not what we think or feel or want.

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And let's do so by learning from someone who has achieved what we desire, and has left us a record of his journey in faith with our Lord...

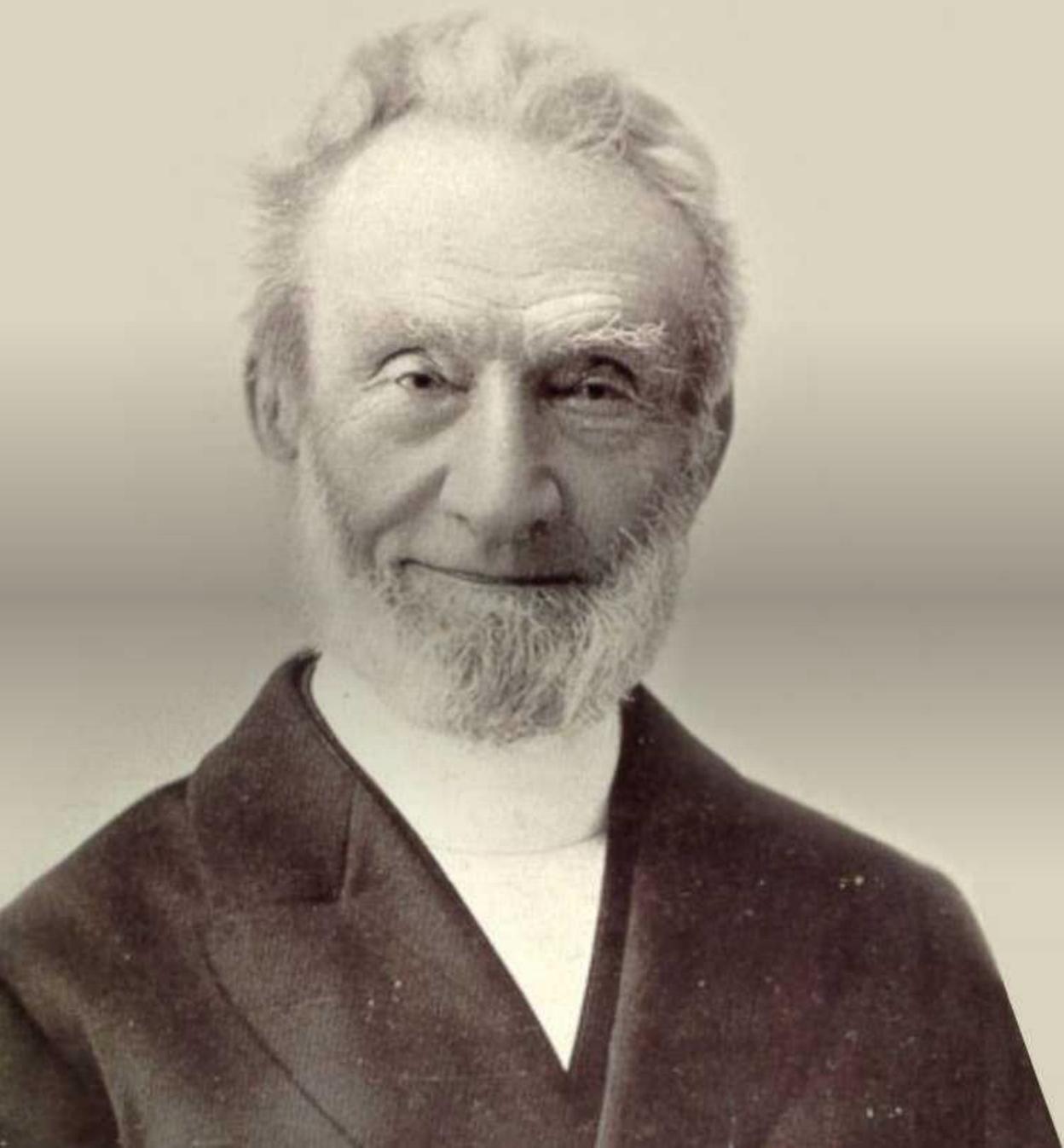
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George Muller.



George Muller

Faith and Prayer

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What is involved in developing a life of prayer?

And then to have those prayers answered in such a way as to show others God still moves in the life of His children today?

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We'll look at two things today.

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And two, how George Muller put it all into action.

Let's start with just a few Scriptures.

Faith and Prayer

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Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

1 John 5:14-15

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Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that
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You murder and covet and cannot obtain.

You fight and war.

Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

James 4:1-2

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Must Ask to Have... but

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You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss (in an evil or wicked manner), that (defined as) you may spend it on your pleasures (*hēdonē* – delight, enjoyment, to have sensual pleasure or gratification).

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Two, but praying “according to His will” gives us
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Two, but praying “according to His will” gives us
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Which leads to a couple of questions.

Faith and Prayer

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How can I know for certain I am praying
“according to His will”?

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How can I know for certain I am praying
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How can I make sure I am not self-deluded into
thinking what I want is what God wants?

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How can I know for certain I am praying
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How can I make sure I am not self-deluded into
thinking what I want is what God wants?

And when I pray, how can I tell the difference?

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Is there some resource that will help me
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Is there some resource that will help me
understand the will of God in my prayers?

And if so, how can I avail myself of that resource?

Faith and Prayer

Let's look at the testimony of George Muller and see how he answered these questions in his own life.

Faith and Prayer

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George Muller was asked one day,
“What is the secret of your service to God.”

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“What is the secret of your service to God.”

This was his response.

Faith and Prayer

“There was a day when I died, utterly died.

I died to George Muller, his opinions, preference, tastes and will. I died to the world, its approval and censure. I died to the approval or blame even of my brethren and friends, and since then I have studied to show myself approved only to God.

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A servant of God has but one Master.”

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Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible.

There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man's power ends.”

Faith and Prayer

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How I Determine the Will of God

By George Muller

One

One

I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter.

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Nine-tenths of the trouble with people is just here.

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Nine-tenths of the trouble with people is just here. Nine-tenths of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts are ready to do the Lord's will, whatever it may be.

One

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Nine-tenths of the trouble with people is just here. Nine-tenths of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts are ready to do the Lord's will, whatever it may be.

When one is truly in this state, it is usually but a little way to the knowledge of what His will is.

Two

Two

Having done this, I do not leave the result to feelings or simple impression.

Two

Having done this, I do not leave the result to feelings or simple impression.

If I do so, I make myself liable to great delusions.



Three

Three

I seek the will of the Spirit of God through,
or in connection with, the Word of God.

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If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word,
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I seek the will of the Spirit of God through,
or in connection with, the Word of God.

The Spirit and the Word must be combined.

If I look to the Spirit alone without the Word,
I lay myself open to great delusions also.

If the Holy Spirit guides us at all, He will do it
according to the Scriptures and never
contrary to them.

Four

Four

Next, I take into account providential circumstances.

Four

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These often plainly indicate God's will in connection with His Word and Spirit.

Five

Five

I ask God in prayer to specifically reveal His will to me.

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I ask God in prayer to specifically reveal His will to me.

According to Muller, the key to getting *specific* answers to prayer is to ask God to *specifically* reveal His will to you.

Six

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Thus, through prayer to God, the study of the Word, and reflection, I come to a deliberate judgment, according to the best of my ability and knowledge, and if my mind is thus at peace, and continues so after two or three more petitions, I proceed accordingly.

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Thus, through prayer to God, the study of the Word, and reflection, I come to a deliberate judgment, according to the best of my ability and knowledge, and if my mind is thus at peace, and continues so after two or three more petitions, I proceed accordingly.

And with this comes the confidence to trust God for incredible things.

Faith and Prayer

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“Expect great things from God.

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“Expect great things from God.
Attempt great things for God.”

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Faith and Prayer

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Now to Him (described as) who is able to do (what) exceedingly abundantly above all that we (1) ask or (2) think, (how) according to the power that works (where) in us, to Him be glory (where) in the church (how) by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Faith and Prayer

Now to Him (described as) who is able to do (what) exceedingly abundantly above all that we (1) ask or (2) think, (how) according to the power that works (where) in us, to Him be glory (where) in the church (how) by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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Inspiration for Sharing Your Faith

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The School of Biblical Evangelism

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The Man as a Boy

By Michael Kelly Blanchard

Donny is dying
There's death in his skin
His face is a picture of sufferin'
His body's so broken
"God, he's so thin"
Donny is packing it in

Donny is hiding
From family and friends
They've stopped their knocking
'Cause he won't let 'em in
At church they've been talking
'Bout the wages of sin
But Donny ain't listening

There was a summer
We both worked the farm
Change in our pockets
Sun on our arms
Throwing the hay bales
From the wagon to the barn
Laughing the whole day long

Racing the rain
One dog-day July
He fell under the wagon
We never heard his cry
Max said it was a miracle
The boy didn't die
"Must be the apple of someone's eye"

I still remember the man as a boy

Hair full of sunlight

Heart full of joy

Playing with the day like it was a new toy

I remember the man as a boy

He went off to college
I went off to war
We did not stay close
As we had been before
He heard I got married
I knew he'd divorced
His parents don't even wave anymore

At a high school reunion
I went to last May
When I asked about Donny
Most looked away
He's living in New York
Right off of Broadway
"Course you know he's gay"

I visited Donny
Down a hospital hall
He was too sick to sit up
But he sure could recall
We talked about two boys
Laughed through it all
Then he asked me
“Do you remember my fall?”

Last couple of weeks
Same dreams come by
I'm stuck under the wagon again
Still too scared to cry
And some how I'm safe
And a sob caught his sigh

“Could I still be the apple of someone's eye?”

I still remember the man as a boy

Hair full of sunlight

Heart full of joy

Playing with the day like it was a new toy

I remember the man as a boy

