

Sustaining Revival: A Study on Ephesians
Lesson 4 “The Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation”

I. Introduction - We are studying the book of the *Ephesians* focusing on how to sustain revival.

A. The revival in Ephesus was the largest new testament reveal recorded in *Acts*. Over 100,000 people were saved in a city the size of Greensboro within two years. Ephesus became a revival center in the first century. Multiple churches were planted out of this church including all 7 churches in the book of *Revelation*.

B. Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus in A.D. 60 about five years later to establish them in truth after the goosebumps had worn off so they could have a sustained experience with God and continue to increase in person revival.

1. **Week 1 - *Ephesians 1:1-6*** We talked about how we are a temples of God and the Holy Spirit dwells in us. The way He speaks to us is grace and peace, we are seated in heavenly places, and that we are accepted. **Knowing what the voice of God sounds like brings stability and confidence.**

2. **Week 2 - *Ephesians 1:7-14*** God’s plan has always been to gather all heaven and earth in Christ. Christ is the new temple. In His earthly ministry Jesus forecasted what its like when God is in charge in situations. Today we are temples of God with Christ in us and God wants us to forecast what its like when God is in charge. We also talked about how we have an inheritance in Christ which the Holy Spirit guarantees. This inheritance is all the promises of God.

II. The Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation - Last week what I talked about in *verses 7-14* was super complex. I partly think this is why Paul follows in *verses 15-23* with a prayer that we would receive a spirit of wisdom and revelation. We need the Holy Spirit to show us these things conceptually so they aren’t just mere words.

A. **Ephesians 1:15-23**

1. Spirit of wisdom and revelation - the word revelation means an unveiling.
 - a. Remove cloth from podium. Podium was always there, but now you can see it. This is one of the main jobs of the Holy Spirit.
 - b. Telescope example - If we go outside now and look in the sky we’ll see stars and the moon, but we can’t see much detail. If I give you a powerful telescope you’ll see detail in the stars and moon and they will seem like they are right here. You could also not only see an airplane, but you could see passengers in the plane, see whether it was United or Delta, etc.
 - c. Kenneth Hagin prayed this prayer and God showed him in **Mark 11:23** the word “says” is used 3 times. He then told him he would need to teach on confession 3 times as much as believing to help people walk by faith.

d. Our eyes get flooded with light - **verse 19**. Ex: Jesus feeding the 5,000 with the loaves and fishes.

i. **Matthew 14:19** - Jesus saw the natural (5,000 people and little food).

ii. **anablépō;** to look up; by implication, to recover sight:— **look (up), see, receive sight.** Jesus looked to heaven and recovered His spiritual site (the Father gave Him eyes to see). This showed Him how to feed the multitude: He blessed what was in His hand it multiplied. **God did not initially give Jesus more food. He gave Him revelation and then the food multiplied.**

2. **Verses 19-20** God wants us to have a revelation that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead, dwells on the inside of us right now. We are a New Testament ark of the covenant. Everywhere the ark went in battle Israel had victory because the ark contained the presence of God. That is who you and I are as temples of the Holy Spirit.

3. **Verses 21-23** Jesus has been raised to the right hand of the Father (right hand represents favor and authority) and we have been raised with Jesus far above the works of the enemy. The body of Christ (**the new temple**) is greater and seated above demonic temples like Diana of the Ephesians or spirits of fear, lust, idolatrous spirits, and spirits of division in our day. **That's true whether we believe it or not. We just need a revelation so we can believe it.**

III. Conclusion - The body of Christ is called to fill the earth with God's spirit. We just need a revelation of who we are so we walk in authority. This revelation will produce a spirit of faith that will cause us to quit trying to escape to heaven because of fear and cause to begin to manifest the kingdom of God here right now while we wait for King Jesus to return.

A. Bid online audience goodbye and give them opportunity to give.

B. Pray Closing Prayer

IV. Discussion Questions

1. What are your biggest takeaways or aha moments from this teaching?
2. What can you take from this teaching and apply to your everyday life?
3. Brian gave an example of how God showed Kenneth Hagin the word say is in **Mark 11:23** 3 times and that Hagin would have to teach on confession 3 times as much as believing in order for people to learn to walk in faith. What has God revealed to you in terms of direction for your life when you prayed for the spirit of wisdom and revelation?
4. Brian said we often our praying for more provision, but a better prayer would be for revelation like Jesus demonstrated in **Matthew 14:19**. Are there specific situations in your life where you can apply this principle?
5. **Ephesians 1** teaches that God works the same power in us and toward us that He worked in Jesus when He raised Him from the dead. What is your immediate reaction to that? How can you apply that truth to see change in your life?