

RESTORATION: A SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

Welcome, Introduction, and Prayer

Worship

God's Vision for Us In This Gathering

God's Glory Demands Praise. Acknowledge our need to return to God and prepare ourselves to meet with Him and to renew our covenant relationship.

"When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man" Revelation 1:17

We Dedicate These Moments to God

- Leading us to commit to God in prayer on our knees

Worship

Why A Solemn Assembly

Every life saturated and transformed by the hope of the Gospel begins with prayers of humility and passion which permeate local churches as we serve the Lord together. We are inspired through God-centered and God-motivated love for one another to glorify God so that the world will seek Him and be saved.

"Therefore, brothers, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus,....let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." Hebrews 10:19; 22-23

Response to God in Prayer

The Cross: Our Brokenness Before Him

Worthy is the Lamb. God tests our righteousness and He sees our hearts and minds. We are undeserving of His steadfast love and mercy.

And yet, He says, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine." Isaiah 42:6 Our Messiah is Jesus.

Response to God in Prayer

Worship Response to God in Humility

Confession and Repentance

Grieving our Father. The reality of sin brings consequences and sometimes the divine displeasure of God. Full confession and remorse bring cleansing, peace and, restoration to a place of blessing.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

Responding to God in Prayers of Repentance

Worship Response to God

Revival or Complacency?

We say, "We're safe. We're God's people." Our churches are no longer houses of prayer who hunger after God; and, some have even become disoriented to the Truth. We are timid to engage our culture and we desire to comfort ourselves with worldly values and priorities. Our hearts need to yearn for God.

"Oh, that you [Almighty God] would rend the heavens, that you would come down, that the mountains might shake at Your presence." Isaiah 64:1

Response to God in Prayer

- Personal: Lord, give me personal revival
- Praying for one another: Lord, give revival

Reflections and Transitional Moments

Lunch or Break

Worship

Preparing us to Continue Forward

Weeping and Mourning for Lost People

We Must Complete the Great Commission. Jesus gave us personal instructions to follow until He returns and, He declared He has all authority to oversee this task. We have unlimited resources and access to His unrestricted power. We only need to align with His heart.

"After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." Revelation 7:9

Praying for Lost People to Come to Jesus

- Personal: Give me a burden for lost people
- Church: Give my church a burden for lost people
- Convention: Give us a burden for lost people
- In each of these three areas, we are praying for lost people to come to Jesus
- The advance of the Gospel and fulfillment of the Great Commission

Worship

Unify the Church to Heal our Nation

Our Nation Can be Healed Through Jesus Christ. Believing that it is God's desire that His people prosper in the land (both physically and spiritually), we must unite in seeking Jesus and turn from our evil ways. With great humility, we must turn away from attacking and judging others and seek Holy wisdom to solve disputes. We should pray for our government leaders and those in authority. Our nation needs a spiritual awakening and is depending on God's people to repent.

"Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying, "O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules." Daniel 9:3-5

Praying for Unity in the Church and Healing in the Nation

- A divided church cannot call a divided nation to unity
- Praying for unity in your church
- Praying for unity in the churches of South Carolina & SBC
- Praying for Healing in a Nation

Responding to God in Worship

Encouraging Pastors and Church Leaders

Allow our leaders the grace to change and grow. The blessing of our prayers for our pastors and church leadership strengthens them to persevere with confidence.

“But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction, and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work.”

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Praying for Pastors

- Praying for those in great need
 - Praying for each other
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The Church, The Body of Christ

Consecrate our churches and our homes. As individuals, we confess our sins and ask for forgiveness however, our churches need corporate forgiveness. It is not enough to gather for worship if we have idols in our churches that are displeasing to God.

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart...” Joel 2:12

Praying for our Churches

- Pray for God’s people to be surrendered to Him
- Pray for us to lay aside anything that distracts us from abiding in Him

Responding to God in Worship

Reflections and Going Forward