

		<b>sermon notes</b>
	<p>March 21 + 22, 2015          Pastor John Speight  <b>Are You Ready to Do Business with God?</b>  <small>LISTEN, GET NOTES + SHARE AT CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/MEDIA</small></p>	

### 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

*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 will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

### Jonah 3:1-10 (NIV)

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: <sup>2</sup>“Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.” <sup>3</sup>Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began by going a day’s journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” <sup>5</sup>The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. <sup>6</sup>When Jonah’s warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. <sup>7</sup>This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. <sup>8</sup>But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. <sup>9</sup>Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.” <sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

The Scripture is clear:

\_\_\_\_\_ occurs when people \_\_\_\_\_.

The Big Question:

How do we pray in a way that brings revival?

### I. REVIVAL PRAYER IS MARKED BY \_\_\_\_\_

*But let the people and animals be covered with sackcloth.*

Jonah 3:8a (NIV)

Note: You may be familiar with the phrase “sackcloth and ashes.” In ancient days wearing sackcloth (similar to burlap) and/or ashes was a visual sign of repentance and humility before God. Today, on Ash Wednesday many Christians are marked with ashes as a visual mark of repentance and humility.

*If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves...*

2 Chronicles 7:14a (NIV)

Revival comes only to those of us  
willing to admit our brokenness.

**2. REVIVAL PRAYER IS MARKED BY \_\_\_\_\_.**

*But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth.  
Let everyone call urgently on God.*

Jonah 3:8b (NIV)

*Never stop praying.*

I Thessalonians 5:17 (NLT)

**3. REVIVAL PRAYER IS MARKED BY \_\_\_\_\_.**

*But let the people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways.*

Jonah 3:8 (NIV)

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

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

*The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.*

James 5:16b (NIV)

*Who may climb the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? Only those whose hands are pure, ... They will receive the Lord's blessing and have a right relationship with God their Savior.*

Psalms 24:3-5 (NLT)

- 1. Lord, make us a church devoted to prayer.** Devote yourself to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2 (NIV)
- 2. Lord, make us a church that prays for all its members and all occasions.** Pray in Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayer and requests. With this in mind (spiritual battles) be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)
- 3. Lord, make us a church that asks, seeks, and knocks.** Ask and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8 (NIV)
- 4. Lord, make us a church that does great things for God by prayer.** Very truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. John 14:12-14 (NRSV)
- 5. Lord, make us a church that transforms its community by prayer.** Work for the good of the city where I've taken you as captives, and pray to the Lord for that city. When it prospers, you will also prosper. Jeremiah 29:7 (GW)

**6. Lord, make us a church that prays faithfully for its leaders.** *Brothers and sisters, I encourage you through our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love that the Spirit creates, to join me in my struggle. Pray to God for me. Romans 15:30 (GW)*

**7. Lord, make us a church that prays for those who do not know you.** *I urge you, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:1,3,4 (NIV)*

**Sources:** *Hear Us From Heaven* by Jared Anderson; *Pray and Seek His Face* by Rick Atchley ; *Ballad of Jonah* adapted from Veggie Tales, and *Scripture Prayer Guide* by Alvin VanderGriend.