



GROUPS AT CROSS POINT

BREAKING THE ICE

What's your wake-up routine like in the mornings? Do you have an alarm? Do you hit snooze a few times?

Describe a time where you slept through something important that you regretted.

MAIN CONTENT

This week Pastor Kevin started a new series titled, "Awaken." God awakens us through confession and prayer, drawing us near to Him. When we take the time to awaken to what He wants to do in us and through us, we see Him move mightily.

1. Describe an instance where you had a revelation; when you woke up to something you had been missing or something that you became aware of going on in your life that needed to be addressed.

We can physically sleep through things going on in our lives and regret it. But it's another thing to be emotionally and spiritually asleep and miss things going on that God has for us in our lives.

When we are spiritually asleep to God in our lives, we start filling our lives with things that do not fill us. We look to other people to fill us emotionally, give us value and feed our ego. We can live this way indefinitely but God wants to wake us up from this spiritual sleep.



2. Describe a time where you have been spiritually asleep and God awakened you.

Jesus came to Earth to wake us up to who God is and the eternal life He has given us. Jesus spent time one-on-one with people waking them up.





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We have a choice to make when God is waking us up, we can roll over and hit snooze or we can wake up to Him. If we hit snooze, there is no guarantee that He will wake us up again in 9 minutes. God wants to wake us up to Him and what He has for our lives.

God wakes us up one-by-one but He also awakens groups of people collectively. We've seen awakenings of God throughout history resulting in revivals around the world.

3. Where have you seen God move in a large group of people in your life?

When we seek Him and spend time with Him, He awakens us. When He awakens us, He starts doing great things in us so He can do great works through us.

4. Where has God moved through you to help others?

Jesus awakened everyone for God. He went from town to town telling everyone about God's love. In Luke 15, we see where Jesus was meeting with a variety of people. The meeting had extreme opposite types of people, the holy Pharisees, who were most respected, eating with the tax collectors, who were the most hated.

The Pharisees may have been the most respected but they were also the most judgmental. They criticized everyone around them, including Jesus. As they criticized others at the table, Jesus showed everyone at the table love.

5. Have you ever felt judged by a group of people or been the one judging others? How did your heart change from the situation?

Jesus came to show love, not judgment. He showed the self-righteous Pharisees love and the tax collectors love. He welcomed everyone because He knew no one is perfect.

As good as our lives may be and even if our lives are all put together, Jesus makes us better. We may do all the "right" things in life. We may feel like we are good people but we will never be perfect. When we think we are "just fine," we become self-righteous, depending on ourselves and not needing Jesus. When we are self-righteous, we need Jesus the most.





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In order to be awakened by God and lose our self-righteousness, we need to be honest with God and confess to Him that we need Him.

6. When you hear the word “confession,” what feelings or emotions does it stir up in you?

God isn’t judging us when we confess to Him. He is thankful we are interacting with Him and telling Him we need Him.

Once we confess to God, we can confess to other trusted friends who can pray for us and help us be accountable to God. If we are being awakened to God and we confess to Him and others, we continue the awakening by removing doubtful things in our lives, practicing being obedient to the Holy Spirit and boldly confessing Jesus in our lives.

Bold, public faith wakes up others. When we live our lives for Jesus by loving, caring and sharing about Him to others, it awakens others to His love for them.

7. How can you live bold in your faith for Jesus?

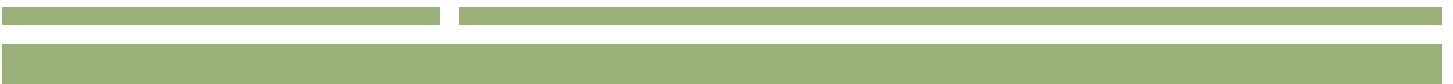
Living a bold, public faith starts with praying for God to awaken you.

8. Have you prayed for God to awaken you to hear His voice in your life?
If not, what keeps you from asking God to awaken you to hear Him?

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for awakening us to your Spirit. Show us where we are self-righteous and dependent on ourselves. Show us where we are living our lives for ourselves; reveal it to us. Help awaken us to what you want to do in us so you can do something through us. Help us confess to you. Remove the doubt in our lives. Teach us how to listen and obey the Holy Spirit and boldly live out our faith. In Jesus name, Amen.

*If you picked up an Awaken packet with individuals’ names in the Nashville area, take a few minutes to pray with your group for these individuals. You can have each group member pray for an individual.





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ACTION STEP

This week, take time to spend with God; ask Him what is keeping you from Him. Spend time praying for Him to do something in you so He can move through you. Keep each other accountable in your groups to what God is doing in your lives.

If you have an “Awaken” packet with the list of names of individuals to pray for in Nashville, take time to pray for these individuals throughout the week. You can also go to www.awakennashville.com for more details.

