# OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART Brad Driedger Feb. 16, 2025

#### Proverbs 21:31 (ESV)

The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

- POSITIONING OURSELVES BEFORE GOD IN PRAYER
- POSITIONING OURSELVES FOR GROWTH
- POSITIONING OURSELVES BY RAISING UP LEADERS

# OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

# 1. REVIVAL HAPPENS WHEN MY EYES ARE OPENED TO WHO GOD IS

### Ephesians 1:16–18 (NIV)

I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup> I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

# 2 Kings 6:15–17 (NLT)

When the servant of the man of God got up early the next morning and went outside, there were troops, horses, and chariots everywhere. "Oh, sir, what will we do now?" the young man cried to Elisha.

<sup>16</sup> "Don't be afraid!" Elisha told him. "For there are more on our side than on theirs!" <sup>17</sup> Then Elisha prayed, "O LORD, open his eyes and let him see!" The LORD opened the young man's eyes, and when he looked up, he saw that the hillside around Elisha was filled with horses and chariots of fire.

# Revelation 2:4 (NLT)

"But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first!

# John 7:37–39 (NLT)

On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! <sup>38</sup> Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.' " <sup>39</sup> (When he said "living water," he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)

# 2. REVIVAL HAPPENS WHEN MY EYES ARE OPENED TO THE CONDITION OF MY HEART

# Hebrews 12:14 (NLT)

...work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.

### 1 John 1:5-6 (NLT)

This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. <sup>6</sup> So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth.

#### Ephesians 4:18 (NLT)

Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him.

### SIN DARKENS OUR MINDS AND HARDENS OUR HEARTS

#### 1 John 1:7 (NLT)

But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

#### 1 John 1:8-9 (NLT)

If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. 9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

#### Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)

People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.

#### James 5:16 (NLT)

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

#### CONFESSION TO GOD AND OTHERS IS A PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALING FOR OUR SOUL!

"I can give you a prescription that will bring revival to any church or community or any city on earth. First, let a few Christians get thoroughly right with God. If this is not done, the rest will come to nothing – R.A. Torrey

Revival is a renewed conviction of sin and repentance, followed by an intense desire to live in obedience to God. It is giving up one's will to God in deep humility. – Charles Finney

Authenticity: No one is perfect, and no church is perfect. At GMC, we strive to be real about life, its hardships, and the struggles we have. From our sermons to our small groups, we aim to cultivate a transparent community where people are open, honest, and humble. Together, we journey toward healing, freedom, and Holy Living.

"Spiritual maturity means more confession not less. Maturity is discovering the depths of my personal brand of falseness...a maturing community is a confessing community" - Tyler Staton