

These questions are for the September 7, 2025, message, "Start here: humility," from the series entitled, "Seeking Him." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 85) together out loud.

### Passage Outline

The starting point for revival is humility.

1. Humility to see and treasure God's grace (1-3).
  - a. The Sons of Korah were characterized by family sin and judgment (Num 16).
  - b. Yet they recognized the lengths to which God went to forgive and restore.
    - i. They received the reconciliation which can come only from God.
    - ii. They took their place as lead worshippers in the house and family of God.
2. Humility to ask God to intervene (4-7).
  - a. The brokenhearted and contrite will be revived by God alone.
  - b. Joy will return to those who see Jesus Christ in the Word and in the world.
3. Humility to trust God's Word and God's ways (8-9).
  - a. Humility: open ears to "hear what God the LORD will speak" (8)
  - b. Make distinctions between what you say (or want) and what God says.
  - c. What does the LORD speak? Shalom, or "peace." He's the only source of it.
4. Humility to consciously obey in peace (10-13).
  - a. The "spiritual" (righteousness) and "physical," (faithfulness) are connected.
  - b. In revival, the environment will flourish (our land will yield its produce).

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We can try to cover our humiliation with comparisons, distractions are attempts to try to heap up good works. Which of these unfruitful efforts are you most prone to engage in? How have these efforts wasted precious seasons of your life?
2. Based on #2, above: What kinds of failures and afflictions has God used to discipline you? How did that discipline graciously prepare you to finally ask God to intervene?
3. Based on #3, above: Pride is not merely a bump in the road which we endure, it's the essence of ongoing rebellion in our hearts. God promises to humble the arrogant (Is 2:11), to work disgrace in the prideful (Prov 11:2), to "tear down the house of the proud" (Prov 15:25 and to destroy those who persist in pride (Prov 16:18). It's kind of God to humble us so that we worship him alone, the source of life. Discuss.
4. Based on #4, above: The spiritual things and material things in our lives are all connected, and therefore God intends to produce people of integrity who live both righteous faithfulness and faithful righteousness. Where are the most glaring inconsistencies between your physical and spiritual life?
5. Based on #4, above: God placed us in his Garden to work it and to keep it. When revival comes, the environment flourishes. How do you show a growing care for God's garden? How can we care about the environment without worshipping it?