



Sermon Discussion Questions

“The Gospel that Gives Life and Brings Revival” (John 3:11-21)

Awakening: The Revival Only God Can Give

August 30, 2026, by Drew Hunter

Sermon Overview

Main Idea

Together with the new birth, which we considered last week, the doctrine of justification by faith is at the heart of what sparks and spreads revival. In this text we see that God causes people to be born again through a message—and at the heart of the message is the doctrine of justification by faith alone.

Sermon Outline

Jesus answers four questions about this message of our acceptance before God by faith:

1. Where does this message come from? (vv. 11-13)
2. What is the message? (vv. 14-15)
3. Why is this message here? (vv. 16-17)
4. Why does this message matter? (vv. 18-21)

Quotes

“Our public assemblies were then beautiful: the congregation was alive in God’s service, everyone earnestly intent on the public worship, every hearer eager to drink in the words of the minister as they came from his mouth: the assembly in general were, from time to time, in tears while the word was preached; some weeping with sorrow and distress, others with joy and love, others with pity and concern for the souls of their neighbors.”

~Jonathan Edwards

Discussion Questions

Initial Engagement

- What is the main idea of the text, or what did the sermon focus on?
- What insight from the text or sermon stood out to you most, and why?

Deeper Reflection

1. Why, according to Jesus, is He able to communicate true truth to us?
2. What are the earthly things and the heavenly things being referenced in the text?
3. Jesus gives us a picture of salvation from the Old Testament. What is simple about salvation? What is difficult about it?
4. How does this text refute the common idea that God the Father is the one who is angry; and Jesus is the nice Son who persuades the Father to save us.?
5. When you share the gospel with others, are there parts you tend to downplay or leave out? What parts? How can you be encouraged by this text to share the full gospel?

Final Response

- What is one thing you want to remember or one way you hope to change in light of this sermon or discussion?