



Session 1: Why Awaken 365?

Tuesday 23rd September 2025 - Steve Burston

"The greatest miracle that God can do today is to take an unholy man out of an unholy world and make him holy, then put him back into that unholy world and keep him holy in it." — **Leonard Ravenhill**

"I saw a large crowd of people working hard on a massive wooden structure. They gathered to pray but nothing happened, they went off again and made more pieces to add to it. This same sad scene went on for some time, but no matter how hard they worked, nothing happened. Soon, I began to hear a sound; it was distant at first, but it grew louder and louder. Then I saw it, a massive body of people – of every age and nationality – came running, dancing and shouting, shapeless like a flood.

I heard them say, 'He makes all things new!' as they smashed through the man-made structure, which fell with a great crash! Those who had been building responded in different ways. Some fell to the ground in despair in the midst of the rubble. Others began to fight with the new crowd, trying to make them stop. Still others grabbed armfuls of what had collapsed and went off and tried to rebuild what had fallen. One last group just left the rubble and joined the dance with joy!

I felt the Lord speak: I will not bless that which is born of the arms of the flesh. This new move will be shapeless, yet structural like a mighty flood, unstoppable and alive! Like the flames in a fire, my people will dance the dance of the redeemed across the nations. In the midst of the apparent desolation, a new thing shall be born, the old man-made structures shall come crashing to the ground, but my new faith-filled bride shall arise dancing out of the ashes.' It is time for you to join the dance."



The Reformation of His Church

1st Century: The Great Transformation

- Timing: Following the death of Jesus, the early Christian church emerged and rapidly took shape in a chaotic period within the Roman Empire.
- Cycle of change: The early church transitioned from a Jewish sect to a distinct religion. This period included major shifts in theology, worship practices, and social structures, culminating in the destruction of the Jewish Second Temple in 70 AD and the scattering of the Jews.
- New structures: Early Christian communities developed leadership structures and compiled the scriptures that would form the New Testament.

5th Century: The Fall of Rome

- Timing: Around 476 AD, with the collapse of the Western Roman Empire.
- Cycle of change: As the centralized Roman power disintegrated, the Roman Catholic Church and the papacy grew in power and became a dominant stabilizing force in the West. This era was crucial for the formation of Western Christendom, as the church took on a greater role in political and social life.
- New structures: The Church cemented its hierarchical structure and established its authority in the vacuum left by the fallen empire.

11th Century: The Great Schism

- Timing: Officially dated to 1054 AD.
- Cycle of change: The long-brewing theological, political, and cultural disputes between the Greek East and the Latin West culminated in a formal split, with each side excommunicating the other. Key disagreements included papal authority and the addition of the *filioque* clause to the Nicene Creed.
- New structures: Western and Eastern Christianity permanently separated into the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church.

16th Century: The Protestant Reformation

- Timing: Beginning in 1517 with Martin Luther's Ninety-five Theses.
- Cycle of change: Martin Luther's protest against the Catholic Church's sale of indulgences ignited a continent-wide movement. Aided by the printing press, reformers like Luther and John Calvin challenged papal authority and traditional church doctrines.
- New structures: The result was the splintering of Western Christianity and the creation of numerous new Protestant denominations, including Lutheranism, Calvinism, and Anglicanism.

21st Century: The Great Emergence (Ongoing)

- Timing: The current era, according to Tickle and other observers, is another period of great spiritual transition.
- Cycle of change: This cycle is characterized by the decline of traditional denominations, the rise of "spiritual but not religious" populations, and the proliferation of smaller, independent church communities. The digital age provides a new means for spiritual ideas to spread, much like the printing press did for earlier reformers.
- New structures: The shift is happening away from rigid institutional loyalty toward more fluid, individualized, and digitally connected forms of worship and community.

External crisis
 +
Inner conviction
 +
God-given momentum
 =
Church reformation

External Crisis



"The Church's greatest failure in our lifetime has been its refusal to take decline seriously. The situation is now so grave that it is no longer enough simply to focus on making parts grow again. The whole structure needs to be reviewed from top to toe, and creative and courageous decisions need to be made. – **Linda Woodhead**

"This is an hour in need of burning hearts, bursting lips and brimming eyes! If we were a tenth as spiritual as we think we are, our streets would be filled each Sunday with throngs of believers marching to Zion – with sacks on their bodies and ashes on their shaking heads, shaking at the calamity that has brought the Church to be the unlovely, unnerved, unproductive thing that she is!" – **Leonard Ravenhill**

"It is ever the darkest hour before the dawn. The nation always seems to be given over to the Evil One before the coming of the Son of Man. The decay of religious faith, the deadening of the churches, the atheism of the well-to-do, the brutality of the masses, all these, when at their worst, herald the approach of the revival. Things seem to get too bad **to** the reign of evil becomes intolerable. Then the soul of the nation awakes." – **W.T Stead**



Inner Conviction

The journey to awakening:

Justification,
Regeneration,
Restoration,
Transformation,
Renewing of People and Churches,
Awakening in Society.



God-given momentum

The Quiet Revival

The Quiet Revival



'Quiet Revival' refers to a significant, yet subtle, increase in church attendance and spiritual engagement. The move of God is particularly notable among younger demographics like Generation Z and includes growth in diverse groups and denominations, such as Catholicism and Pentecostalism. This revival is characterized by a growing spiritual openness and curiosity, contrasting with past trends of secularization.

Key Aspects of the Quiet Revival

- Increased Attendance: Data from the Bible Society's surveys shows a rise in regular church attendance from 8% in 2018 to 12% in 2024, with a dramatic increase among young adults under 35, from 4% to 16%.
- Demographic Shift: The church is becoming more diverse, with a growing representation from ethnic minorities.
- Spiritual Engagement: There is an observable increase in spiritual openness, with individuals showing curiosity about faith, interested in learning about the Bible, and more likely to pray.
- Generational Impact: Young people, particularly Generation Z, are demonstrating increased engagement with Christianity.
- Denominational Growth: Various Christian traditions, including Catholicism and Pentecostal churches, are experiencing growth.

Causes and Context

- Reaction to Secularism: Some view the Quiet Revival as a response to the unsatisfying and sometimes hopeless nature of the secular online world, with people seeking deeper meaning.
- Focus on Discipleship: Rather than just growth in numbers, there is a call for deep spiritual maturity and discipleship, emphasizing repeated encounters with Scripture, prayer, community, and service.

Significance

- Relevance of Christianity: The trend indicates that Christianity remains relevant to many people, especially the younger generation.



- Missional Opportunity: The Quiet Revival is seen as a "holy opportunity" for the church to guide searching individuals and help them establish deep roots in their faith.
- Positive Societal Impact: Research indicates that churchgoers tend to report higher life satisfaction, are more likely to volunteer, and donate to charity.

Evangelize the Nations, Revitalize the Church, Transform Society.

Ephesians 1:1-2

'Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'

*"My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going, I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself and the fact that I think that I am following your will, does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that desire to please you, does in fact please you. And I hope that I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.
Amen."*

Session 2: The Third Soil

Tuesday 23rd September 2025 - Steve Burston



Luke 8:14

The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

Mark 4:18–19

Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.

2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Notes:

Thorn	Remedy
-------	--------

AWAKEN³⁶⁵

Worries	<i>A revelation of the Father</i>
Riches	<i>A revelation of Jesus</i>
<i>Pleasures/desires for other things.</i>	<i>Fellowship with the Holy Spirit</i>



Luke 8:15

But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

Notes:

2 Timothy 2:20-22

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Notes:

Hebrews 12:1-2

AWAKEN 365

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Notes:

“The world has yet to see what God can do with a man fully consecrated to Him.” – **D.L Moody**