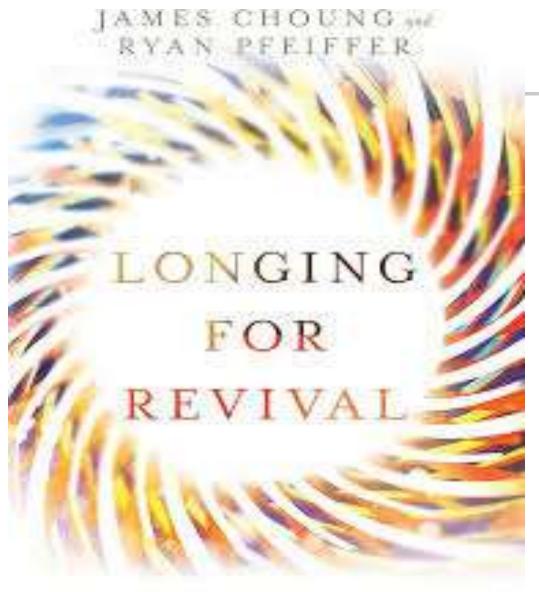
# Status: In A Relationship



BREAKTHROUGH FAITH

#### Make One Thing Very Clear

- By word, we mean the expression of the gospel through biblical teaching and preaching.
- By deed, we mean the expression of the gospel in compassion and justice.
- By power, we mean the expression of the gospel and miraculous or explicitly supernatural ways.
- IF WE ARE NOT EXPECTING/ PRAYING FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO MOVE WITH MIRACULOUS POWER, WE WILL NOT SEE REVIVAL.

#### In A Relationship

- Oute little swipe at social media
- But, for disciples of Jesus, what does that mean, exactly?
- Yes, of course, we are in a relationship with Jesus – he is our Lord and he lives in us and through us
- BUT, what is the clearest and simplest definition of a disciple of Jesus?
- Loves like Jesus loves
- We are also in a sacrificial servant relationship with those around us,



Romans 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; 11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13 contributing to the needs of the [k]saints, [l]practicing hospitality.

## Faith in Action?

Romans 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 16 Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. 17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.



#### Sacrificial Servanthood

Romans 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but [p]leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## Living the One Anothers

- Notice anything missing here?
- No reference here to Bible study or evangelism or going to your prayer closet or speaking in tongues or miracles
- Living lovingly, patiently, sacrificially, mercifully; serving others and freely meeting each others needs in all situations
- Because that is what Jesus Does!
- Regardless of how they treat you!!

#### Not the Wizard of Oz Church



## Christianity = Relationship

- We say all the time that Christianity is not a religion, it is a
- RELATIONSHIP
- A convert has a relationship with Jesus
- A Disciple of Jesus is in a sacrificial servant relationship with those that Jesus Loves



### Good News!, YOU Are

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY