

Pastor's Evaluation of the Prayer Empowering Weekend

1. Pastor's Name: Richard Compton Church Phone: 229-365-7286

Name of Church: First Baptist of Rochelle

Church Address: 701 Gordon Street Mailing Address: PO Box 566

City/State/Zip: Rochelle/GA/31079

Visiting Coordinator: Bob Foy

2. How would you describe the effects of the weekend on those who participated?

Phrases like "This weekend was so humbling and motivating", "I love the small groups", "I feel transformed like never before", "It was an enlightening and powerful experience", "I could feel the Holy Spirit fill this place and ignite a fire", "I was hesitant at first, but I am so thankful I went", "The weekend was a tremendous blessing for me...I realize that there is more I can do to grow spiritually", "I have drawn closer to God and in understanding how to pray", "Wonderful weekend, to God be the glory", "Holy Spirit filled from start to finish", "Truly humbling and personally renewing", "Great Weekend-God was here all weekend!", "Wonderful weekend! Made such an impact on reviving my excitement for church, prayer and the Lord", "I loved every minute of it. I loved the small group time".

3. How would you evaluate the conduct of the Team Members?

We had 22 adults and 6 children/youth come from 5 states including GA.

Most of these team members met for the first time at our first team members meeting at 5pm.

The team members would take the assignments from Bob and they would carry them out like they had been doing this all the time...there was no hesitancy, no internal issues, truly the Spirit of God was with all our team members. During the weekend, many shared personal stories of heartbreak or challenge and this really spoke to my church family. Thank you to this team!!

4. Check the positive contributions the Prayer Empowering Weekend has made to your congregation.

Better Attendance: I am praying for this to be the case

Deeper spirit of love: Most assuredly

Easier ability to witness: Yes

Call to redemptive ministry heard by many: Yes

Desire to develop a deeper prayer life: Yes

5. What changes, if any, would you suggest in the Prayer Empowering Weekend?

The amount of materials was fine, I don't think any training for the pastor is necessary, because it was lead by the church and the visiting team members, the number of team members seemed a lot, at first, but it was just fine.

6. What impact has the weekend had on the church youth group (including youth and adults involved)?

The Sunday of the Prayer Empowering Weekend was the last Sunday of our youth pastor. God has called him to a church to be pastor. So, I wasn't sure how this weekend would go for our youth. God's spirit was very evident the entire weekend within our youth group. I heard many say that they did not want to come and especially give up their entire weekend for church. After it was over, they all told me that they are glad that they did. The adults who are now going to lead our youth group in this transition were very excited to see how our youth group jelled together. This was exactly what our youth group needed at this time.

7. What is your personal evaluation and/or recommendation?

Since I had never experienced any type of lay renewal weekend, I was going into this without any prior experience. I was blown away! Since I was not leading anything, I could observe a lot of things as they were

happening. The teaching sessions for the adults were incredible. God has given Bro. Lowell the ability to truly teach on prayer! The small groups were awesome. People opened up in a way that they had never opened up before. I really can not think of anything that I could recommend to change or tweak. God bless Bob and Phyllis as they lead these weekends!!

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Pastor's Evaluation Letter Fri, Jun 17, 2022 at 9:37 PM

Dear Bob, Phyllis, and the renewal team,

On behalf of the entire Grassy Knob church family, we would like to thank you for leading us through our first church renewal weekend. Honestly, we had no idea what we were getting into but we are so thankful we had the opportunity to participate in the weekend. We had been praying and looking forward to our church renewal weekend for quite some time yet the weekend still surpassed our expectations. There is always blessing when God's people come together with one mind and one purpose. The Spirit of God was present with us during the entire weekend. From the time we had our opening leader meeting until the last goodbyes after lunch on Sunday, it was evident that God had orchestrated every aspect of our weekend. Each of the team members were so effective in allowing God to use them to bless our members. We know it is God who deserves all the honor and glory for bringing the perfect team to Grassy Knob.

This church renewal weekend is exactly what we needed. Not to place blame or make excuses, but COVID-19 had an impact on the fellowship in our church. Fellowship is such a vital part of any church. Renewal helped Grassy Knob reconnect with what we knew we were missing. The time of togetherness, sharing, partnership, and participation that the weekend fostered was priceless. With great hope we look forward to this fellowship to continue and strengthen in the weeks and months to come. We also know that the church renewal weekend was not the end but the beginning of what God wants to do in and through us as a church. We look forward to whatever God brings next!!

The Sunday evening sharing time was such a blessing. I would say that just about everyone in attendance shared something about what God was doing in their lives or something that they had gained through the weekend. From young to old, and everywhere in between, people shared heartfelt testimonies about what God was doing in their lives. Again, it was such a sweet time of fellowship. Our prayer is that this sweet spirit would continue in our church.

One final note to Bob, Phyllis, and the team. I share with you some of Paul's words to the church of Galatia, "let us not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary." Keep up the good work!! I know God is using you to impact His Kingdom for good. Thank you for your service to our Lord, your commitment to serving Him is such an encouragement!!

Your Co-Laborer in Christ,

Pastor Scott Chenevey

Bro. Bob, June, 10, 2022

I want to begin with a verse that speaks of our weekend for The Church Renewal Journey. It is Ephesians 3:20, "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us". The Church Renewal Journey Awakening Weekend exceeded everyone's expectation. Our prayers have been for the Lord to awaken our church, to have his will and way in every life that would be present for the weekend. Even before the weekend began, the planning process, the in-home prayer meetings, the corporate prayer meetings, we saw God answer prayer and begin to move in a mighty way. The team that God assembled to lead our weekend was just exactly who we needed for the Awakening weekend. They truly served our church and our people enjoyed the fellowship with them immensely. I want to list some of the fruit from the weekend:

1. Several people have volunteered for new areas of service in our church.
2. Multiple people want to begin small groups in their homes for fellowship/Bible study.
3. Many people talked about what they learned about people they have been going to church with for years and developed new relationships with people they see at church every week.
4. People caught a vision and burden for evangelism, specifically reaching the parents of children whom attend our Wednesday evening activities.
5. The weekend's purpose is not evangelism, yet we saw three people save during the weekend and followed the Lord in believer's baptism this past Sunday!
6. Many people saw the need for spiritual growth in the Christian life.
7. The church has seen the importance of prayer in the life of our church and corporate prayer together as a body of believers.
8. Our student group moved toward greater unity together.
9. The church overwhelmingly wanted to take the next step in The Church Renewal Journey.

Our evaluation service on Sunday night began at 6:00 p.m. Sunday evening and ended around 9:30 p.m. We had a 3 ½ hours service of continuous testimonies from people in our church about what God had done in their individual lives through the weekend. People who have never given a public testimony came before the church and shared. We ended the evening with every individual family coming around praying with me and my wife. The whole process and weekend were a tremendous encouragement to me! Revival has truly come to our church!

Today, I have been meeting with multiple people discussing our next steps! It is exciting to me as a pastor. As a result of the weekend one my personal prayers have been answered in regards to small group meetings.

I have been speaking about the need to have small groups outside the walls of the church for fellowship and Bible study which was not accepted by many in our fellowship. Now those very people want to host a small group in their home! How awesome is that! I know we are going to see fruit from the weekend in the week to come.

If any pastor has questions or would like to speak with me about beginning The Church Renewal Journey, please don't hesitate to give them my phone number, I would be thrilled to speak with them. I am a grateful Pastor for all the Lord has done through the weekend! To him be the glory!

In His service, David Marshall, Pastor, Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, Waycross, Georgia

Re: Pastors Evaluation Letter

Feb 14, 2022

Pastors, Church Leaders, Convention leaders,

If you looking for something to bring God's people back together in unity and get them excited to be back together since the past 2 years have brought separation - look no further than Church Renewal Journey.

www.churchrenewaljourney.net

This past weekend we did the Awakening Weekend and it was wonderful. Folks who had lost their joy were restored - folks who were discouraged left encouraged (with phone numbers to continue in encouragement) - love and unity were restored - forgiveness and repentance was given - many questions were answered - a young man prayed to receive Christ - more plans are being made for future discipleship to go along with our discipleship strategy - much food and fellowship were had - new friendships were kindled

ALL praise and glory given to King Jesus!

Robert Wise pastor@northbrookbaptistchurch.com

Bob and Phyllis; Apr 5, 2022 at 1:55 PM

Words cannot adequately express my thoughts about our Church Renewal Journey Awakening weekend. All of my expectations, and from what I am hearing everyone else's, expectations were greatly exceeded beyond anything imagined.

We truly believe that the Lord did everything and more during the weekend. Just by going through the preparation process really accomplished a lot of what we were not expecting to happen until the LRJ weekend.

You can feel a whole different atmosphere starting to develop among the people that participated. Truly we can see evidence that the Lord had already started moving through our congregation before the weekend. (You were exactly right when you told us last years that the team would not bring the Holy Spirit, but a lot of times He would already be moving).

Through all of the Cottage prayer meetings, the 24 Prayer Vigil, and the prayers during our worship services and Wednesday night meetings we can see where the Lord was already at work.

The response during the Sunday night Commitment Service was great. The service started at 6:00 PM and I think it was around 10 PM when we locked the doors.

We started off the time of testimonies with the young man that got saved early Saturday morning which was very powerful in itself. We also had several people that probably had never stood in front of people and shared their heart to come up and share how they were impacted during the weekend. We listened as one after the another came forward expressing a desire to continue small group studies and informal coffee groups where everyone could get to know each other better.

The weekend could be considered a success just with the evidence of a renewed bonding of people. But of course that one of the many areas where the Holy Spirit did a mighty work. There were several people that expressed desires to get more involved in areas that are needed such as the children and youth ministries, evangelism and ministering to each other.

By the comments from Sunday night we see where our church is very interested in the next weekend It amazed me how the Lord sent just the right team members that we needed and how all of the team members and our people blended and acted just like we were life-long friends.

Our prayer is that they all arrived back home safely.. Personally the Men's Meeting was very convicting to me in how it showed how we as fathers and Christians have failed our families and friends by not taking advantage of opportunities to encourage and share the Gospel message.

The video with Jay Leno was comical in some ways but sad in the fact of how many people are Biblically ignorant in our society. We have truly failed the Lord in these areas. I was also convicted by not being able to list all of the Ten Commandments and how 5 is the average number people can remember. So sad.

I would like to close by thanking you and Mrs. Phillis for all of your leadership and help during the preparation time and pray that the Lord will continue to bless you personally and through your ministry with the Lay Renewal Process.

I am also very excited to and can't wait to see just what the Lord is going to do through Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in the days to come.

Through Christ Alone, Steve Tucker, General Chairperson

Ronnie McMillan

To: Bob Foy, crj@ncbaptist.org

Thanks again for helping us get in touch with the Holy Spirit and experiencing such a wonderful weekend!

Ronnie McMillan, Pastor to the First Baptist Church of Ronda, Elkin Highway NC says: Lay Renewal Weekend was the answer to our prayers. Our church body was encouraged, challenged, and reignited.

Our church had been struggling prior to the pandemic. In fact, the new order of social distancing forced us outside. This brought a breath of fresh air because it was different and exciting to wear pajamas while sitting in the comfort of automobiles. However, a little over a year later and back inside, it didn't take long for the same old atmosphere to rear its head. This time with a vengeance.

This discouraged pastor reached out to Larry McCoy, the DOM of the Elkin Baptist Association for help. McCoy introduced me to Bob Foy, a missionary and national coordinator for church renewal for the North American Mission Board.

Mr. Foy came to our church and presented an Overview of the Program. Our church was all in after this.

Our program began with a 24-hour prayer vigil on Thursday that really got our people seriously searching their selves.

Friday evening, we met our lay volunteers and we worshipped with singing and heard testimonies. We met in small groups and actually got to know our church members.

We met on Saturday morning having coffee meetings in different homes. This was so spiritual and life changing as we shared our burdens and prayed together. I cannot explain what happened.

Our people rediscovered joy and want to serve again. They want to pray and read their Bible more.

Our men are wanting to be the men they should be. Our women desire to be healthy sheep depending on their shepherd.

Sunday evening our church met for evaluation. Before we got through we had 3 people wanting to join our church. Almost everyone present gave their testimony about what happened and what they wanted to do. It was truly a renewal weekend.

We are going back to the basics and getting to know our members. We are falling in love with Jesus again.

We have rediscovered the great commission. I would highly recommend every church to plan for a lay renewal weekend experience.

“Greatest event I have ever experienced in all my years of serving as Pastor. I highly Recommend the Lay Renewal Awakening Weekend.”

Ronnie McMillan, Pastor of First Baptist Church of Ronda, NC

(Their Church General Chairperson, Tracy Jones, has already set the date for their Equipping Weekend on May 5-7, 2023.

5 members of FBC Ronda have asked if they can serve as Visiting Team Members on a Renewal Weekend at another Church)
