

# The Awakening Library Study Guide

THE  
AWAKENING  
LIBRARY

# Introduction

Welcome to the Awakening Library Study Guide!

This resource is designed to serve you, your group, and your local church in interacting with the videos and resources contained in the Awakening Library.

It is our belief that a deeper reflection on the resources provided at [AwakeningLibrary.com](http://AwakeningLibrary.com) can serve both individuals and local churches who desire to experience a renewed sense of God's presence in local church life.

First, let's look at a definition of awakening.

Second, we'll review the suite of resources provided in the Awakening Library and their purpose.

Third, we'll look at how you can best use this study guide to enhance your learning on the path to seeing a true great awakening occur in our time.

## A DEFINITION OF AWAKENING

As you begin to use this study guide, here is a working definition of awakening that you can reference each time the word is used in this guide.

Awakening is the outcome of personally encountering Jesus Christ, through whom the love of God the Father is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Awakening both results from and leads to deep wholeness in people, renewal of the church, evangelization of a generation, and transformation of society.

The common thread of the Christian story and the great urgency of our day, awakening unfolds in small ways which produce vast blessing to all of creation. It comes most readily to those who are desperate for more of God, to any disciple of Jesus thirsty for a manner of prayer and quality of relationship that bear the marks of plain, scriptural Christianity—the measure of which is holy love.

The church cannot manufacture awakening; it is ultimately a work of God and a sign of his presence. But we can sow for awakening, remove impediments, and posture ourselves to receive it.

## ABOUT THE AWAKENING LIBRARY

The Awakening Library is a resourcing initiative of Seedbed and New Room, and exists to serve followers of Jesus who desire to experience the presence of God in an ongoing and transformative way in their local context.

In specific, the Awakening Library is a free suite of online resources focused on nurturing spiritual awakening in the body of Christ, accompanied by an inspiring and in-depth series of interviews

that reveal how lives were changed during the sixteen days of what is known as the Asbury Outpouring, or Asbury Revival, in February 2023.

Drawing on the insights of leaders who banded together to steward the revival, and their own learnings from years of ministry in their annual New Room conferences, Seedbed has assembled this collection of materials and stories to help individuals and churches prepare for outpouring in their community.

The Awakening Library includes:

- Asbury Outpouring Unpacked (10-episode short film series)
- Core Learning booklet series (in PDF and article formats)
- Additional Video Resources

All resources are available to you absolutely free, in digital format, at [AwakeningLibrary.com](http://AwakeningLibrary.com). We are able to do this due to the generosity of our donors.

## **ABOUT THIS GUIDE**

The Awakening Library Study Guide is designed to help you and your community sit with, consider, and act on learnings we have drawn from the experience of the Asbury Outpouring and more than a decade of ministry in our New Room conferences.

The Asbury Outpouring Unpacked short film series is the centerpiece for this learning and is supplemented by our Core Learning booklet series.

These primary resources are further enhanced by our growing library of video resources and articles, particularly selected to encourage you in your desire to see awakening in your heart, home, church, and city.

Each session in this guide is based on one theme drawn from the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked film series and provides a meeting format for those gathering to learn from the videos, complete with reflection questions and related readings from our Core Learning booklet library.

The structure of each session is as follows:

### **TITLE**

The title indicates the number of the session, and the video theme for that time.

### **WELCOME**

This section offers ideas for gathering and beginning conversations around the theme.

### **WATCH THE VIDEO**

Here you will find the episode name of the short film to be watched from the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked documentary section of the site.

**REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

Each session has five to six questions to help you and/or your group get the most from your reflection on the video.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

We provide a closing prayer related to the theme, and the invitation to pray for a great awakening in our day.

**RELATED READING**

Here we suggest related reading from our Core Learning booklet series or another resource; we suggest that groups doing the study read the related readings before coming together to watch the video.

## SESSION 1

# What Happened?

What happened at Asbury University in 2023, and what can we learn from the experience of outpouring that drew tens of thousands in person to experience the presence of Jesus and touched millions online?

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### WELCOME

As you begin the session, welcome everyone to share what their experience was when they first heard about what was happening at Asbury University. How did they hear about it, and what moved them?

### WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “What Happened?” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. As you reflect on the story of the Asbury Outpouring, what stands out to you? Was there anything shared in the video that was particularly encouraging or stirring?
2. Before watching the video, did you have any prior knowledge or experiences related to the Asbury Outpouring? What was your general attitude or perception toward it?
3. How was what you heard in the video about the outpouring different or similar from what you may have heard about it elsewhere? Was anything surprising to you?
4. Based on what was shared in the video, is there a particular part of the story that intrigues you most? What are you most excited to learn more about?
5. How do you sense your perspective on what God is doing today has changed since the Outpouring? Are you more encouraged? Are you seeing signs of God’s work elsewhere around you?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we give you thanks for what happened at Asbury University, and what is continuing to happen all around the world. Let awakening come in our generation, Lord! In the name of Jesus, we come. Amen.

### RELATED READING

- *Why We Need Awakening* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))
- *What Is Awakening?* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))

## SESSION 2

# Consecration

The consecration room was an innovation that emerged during the Asbury Outpouring. How would a commitment to consecration in your life, and the life of your church, be worked out in real time?

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### WELCOME

As you begin the session, welcome everyone to share what their definition of consecration might be. Is it a word they have used before, and if so, what do they think it means? Where and how have they heard the word used before?

### WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “Consecration” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What did you find most helpful and/or most challenging in the video? Why?
2. As you reflect on the story of the consecration room, what elements stand out to you the most?
3. Considering the insights from the video, how could your church integrate some of these consecration practices into your weekly experience?
4. Be honest: How important is the preparation of the heart for those who are leading or stepping onto the platform at your church?
5. How important is the preparation of your heart in your own life? What would it look like for you to take confession, repentance, and reconciliation more seriously?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, open the eyes of our hearts to understand the importance of confession, repentance, reconciliation, and other practices of consecration, to living as a disciple. In the name of Jesus, we come. Amen.

### RELATED READING

- *How to Prepare for Outpouring* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))

## SESSION 3

# Prayer

The foundation of prayer before, during, and after an experience of outpouring is undeniable in the history of revivals. How could you respond to the invitation to pray for awakening in a new way in this coming season?

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### WELCOME

As you begin the session, welcome everyone to share their experiences of praying for awakening, or revival. What kinds of environments have they been in, and what was the tone of the prayers being prayed? Have they heard the term “travailing prayer” before?

### WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “Prayer” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What did you find most helpful and/or most challenging in the video? Why?
2. The video talked about various expressions of prayer surrounding the Asbury Outpouring. Are there any that stand out to you?
3. How would you describe the current culture of prayer at your church (or in your life) in one or two words? How would you describe the ideal culture of prayer at your church (or in your life) in one or two words?
4. Considering what you’ve heard about prayer and the hopes you have expressed for your own context, how might some of these practices be incorporated into the life of your church?
5. What would it look like for you to cultivate a commitment to the secret place of prayer in your life?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, the invitation to stand in the gap for our generation is before us, and we want to take you up on your offer when you say that if your people will humble themselves and pray, you will heal our land (2 Chron. 7:14). Teach us to pray, by the Spirit, for awakening, Lord. Teach us to pray. In the name of Jesus, we come. Amen.

### RELATED READING

- *How to Pray for Awakening* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))

# Leadership

Leadership that is engaged with the needs of the world around us holds a particular quality of desperation, of deep hunger, to see God move in our time. What are the qualities of these types of leaders, and what kind of leadership culture nurtures an expectancy for awakening?

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## WELCOME

As you begin the session, welcome everyone to honestly share about the state of their own hearts related to a hunger and thirst for God to move in this generation. When they think about family members, friends, or those they know who are struggling, and imagine those people never experiencing the loving and transforming presence of Jesus, does that create a renewed sense of urgency in them to live and lead toward seeing a great awakening touch many lives?

## WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “Leadership” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What did you find most helpful and/or most challenging in the video? Why?
2. What stands out to you as you hear the story of leadership at the Asbury Outpouring? How has the video challenged or confirmed your perception of effective leadership?
3. Discuss the emphasis on the *quantity* of leaders and the *quality* of relationships among them.
  - » How does this compare with your experiences in church leadership?
  - » How would a collaborative style of leadership positively impact your church community? What challenges do you see coming out of this approach?
4. Is there anywhere you can take a backseat and “trust God with his Church” regarding how you lead?
5. What could be one next step you take to become a more awakening-minded leader?

## CLOSING PRAYER

Father, you are the Lord of your church, and the Lord of me as a leader and influencer in my spheres of relationships. Open my heart to learn as a leader, and to be open to learning new ways of being a leader for the sake of partnering with you in the healing of this generation. In the name of Jesus, we come, amen.

## RELATED READING

- *How to Develop Leadership Culture* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))
- *How to Minister in Prayer* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))



## SESSION 5

# Relationships

What kind of relationships create an open and trusted space for God to move within?

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### WELCOME

As you begin the session, ask, “What words or phrases would you use to describe the most godly and supportive kinds of relationships you have had throughout your life?”

### WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “Relationships” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What did you find most helpful and/or most challenging in the video? Why?
2. What stands out to you as you hear the story of relationships and unity at the Asbury Outpouring?
3. How would you describe the quality of relationship between people in your church? What are some practical steps you can take to foster the quality of relationship among the people in your context?
4. Consider the statement, “Making space at the table means I might have to change seats—and I might have to get out of the way.” How could you make more space at your table? Is there a seat, even one you are in, that may need to be freed up?
5. The video placed a significant emphasis on reconciliation in relationships. Is there a relationship in your life that is broken? Is there a step you could take towards healing, forgiveness, or reconciliation in that relationship?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we give you thanks for how your Spirit moved in the hearts of those impacted by the Asbury Outpouring guiding them to loving, serving, and reconciling in their relationships. We are open to how you would invite us to take steps in our relationships to make room at the table for others. In the name of Jesus, we come, amen.

### RELATED READING

- *How to Cultivate Relationships That Sustain Awakening* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))
- *Discipleship Bands: A Practical Field Guide* (available free at [discipleshipbands.com](http://discipleshipbands.com))

## SESSION 6

# Worship

Worship, and particularly the lingering, prayerful, and honest musical expression of worship, viewed as ministering to Jesus, played a profound role in the Asbury Outpouring. What role will worship play going forward for the awakening church?

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### WELCOME

As you begin the session, ask everyone to share for one minute or less about an experience they had when worship went beyond the music for them, and they felt like they were intimately communing with God and ministering to his heart in worship.

### WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “Worship” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What did you find most helpful or most challenging in the video? Why?
2. What stands out to you as you hear the story of worship at the Asbury Outpouring?
3. How does time spent rehearsing or in production planning compare to the time spent in prayer and preparation of the heart when it comes to worship in your context? How might your church emphasize the condition of the heart over talent when it comes to leading worship?
4. What would it look like for you to create space for “lingering” in your context? Do you have any fears or hesitations around extended times of waiting in God’s presence?
5. “The spiritual authority we seek in the roles that we have is not purchased on a stage. It happens in the secret place.” What would it look like for you to cultivate a posture of worship in the secret place, worshiping when nobody sees you?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we offer you our worship—not as an act of religious programming, but as a true offering of adoration and surrender. Forgive us for our part in losing our way and teach us once again to focus on ministering to you, Jesus, in our times of gathered and personal worship. In the name of Jesus, we come, amen.

### RELATED READING

- *How to Lead Worship for Encounter with Jesus* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))

## SESSION 7

# Hunger

What does it mean to have deep, spiritual hunger, and what role does our desire to both experience the transforming love of God, and to see others experience the same, play in awakening?

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### WELCOME

As you begin the session, ask the questions, “When is the last time you felt what you would call spiritual hunger? What did it feel like, and when is the last time you were aware of that hunger stirring in you?”

### WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “Hunger” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What stands out to you as you hear the story of hunger at the Asbury Outpouring?
2. When people come to your church, what do they expect? When you come to your church, what do you expect?
3. Based on what you have seen and heard in the video, is the Spirit guiding you to shift your expectations of what God can do in any way?
4. Can you think of any practical disciplines, habits, or communal practices that can contribute to a sustained desire for God?
5. How can your community combat the illusion of self-sufficiency and move toward a place of desperation? Can you think of any disciplines, habits, or communal practices that can contribute to a sustained hunger for God?
6. The video talked extensively about radical humility. Are there any practices you have in your life that help cultivate a posture of genuine humility?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, my desire for you, and my desire to see you touch lives in beautiful and amazing ways, is in need of stirring once again. Give me the kind of spiritual hunger that results in an expectancy that you will move in our midst as a community. In the name of Jesus, we come, amen.

### RELATED READING

- *How to Prepare for Outpouring* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))

## SESSION 8

# The Young

In the Asbury Outpouring at Asbury University, GenZ was in focus—both in leading and in receiving an outpouring of God’s presence.

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### WELCOME

As you begin the session, welcome everyone to share about their heart for those in their life who are part of the younger generations. What would they like to see God do in them, and why?

### WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “The Young” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What did you find most helpful or most challenging in the video? Why?
2. What stands out to you as you hear the story of the younger generation at the Asbury Outpouring?
3. In what ways can you and your church empower and encourage younger generations to lead? Do you have any hesitations around this?
4. The video used the language of spiritual mothering and fathering. How might this be different from the way the church typically approaches mentorship or leadership development?
5. Who are the spiritual mothers and fathers in your community? How would you identify them? How could they be gathered, connected, resourced, and commissioned in your church—not for a committee, but for kingdom life?
6. Do you have a leadership opportunity into which you could bring a younger person with you, or even a leadership role you could give away? What are your honest feelings about giving away your platform?

### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we recognize that you love all ages and generations, and you’ve come to love us all into wholeness in Christ Jesus. We also recognize that you are showing special attention to the young in this season of renewal we are in. We pray you would bring an awakening to, and through, the young. In the name of Jesus, we come, amen.

### RELATED READING

- *Why We Need Awakening* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))

# Presence

**“In the presence of God, all good things can happen.”**  
**Can we posture ourselves to experience the manifest presence of God with greater consistency and intimacy?**

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## WELCOME

As you begin the session, ask those gathering when the last time they experienced a sense of the Holy Spirit’s presence in a room or gathering. How would they describe what they felt?

## WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode “Presence” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What did you find most helpful or most challenging in the video? Why?
2. What stands out to you as you hear about God’s presence at the Asbury Outpouring?
3. How would you recognize the presence of God in your church? Is God’s presence something you know? Feel? Share?
4. When people leave your gatherings, what do they talk about most? God’s presence? Or something else?
5. Is there a way you could create opportunities for response and encounter in your context?
6. In what ways can you prioritize encountering Jesus over other elements of church life? Are there specific practices that you can incorporate into your life to cultivate an awareness of God’s presence?

## CLOSING PRAYER

Father, in your presence all good things can happen. Open our hearts, and the heart of our community, to experience your love as you have desired us to experience it. In the name of Jesus, we come, amen.

## RELATED READING

- *How to Host a Meeting with God* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))
- *How to Lead Worship for Encounter with Jesus* (available free at [awakeninglibrary.com](http://awakeninglibrary.com))

# What Now?

In light of what God has done in the Asbury Outpouring, and is now doing all over the world among the young, on university campuses, in churches, and in movements, what is our next step forward?

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## WELCOME

As you begin the session, ask everyone what they believe their own personal next steps are in response to what God has invited them to through this learning together.

## WATCH THE VIDEO

Watch the episode, “What Now?” in the Asbury Outpouring Unpacked series.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What are your key observations from the story of the Asbury Outpouring?
2. Based on what you have heard, is there anything you may need to unlearn? Is there anything that has encouraged you?
3. How do you sense your perspective on what God is doing today has changed since hearing more about the outpouring? Are you more encouraged? Are you seeing signs of God’s work elsewhere around you?
4. What meaningful relationships do you have with people outside of the church in your community? If there are none, where could you begin to form some such relationships?
5. How can you prioritize Jesus as the main thing? Is your heart available to Jesus? What would it look like to pursue God for the sake of God and not for personal benefit? How might this change your heart? Your home? Your church? Your city?

## CLOSING PRAYER

Father, these are days in which you are doing amazing things in the hearts of people who long to meet with you. Open our hearts, my heart, to all that you have for us. We don’t want to hold back or fall behind in what you are doing in our day. Show us how we can take our place in sowing for a great awakening. In the name of Jesus, we come, amen.

## RELATED READING

- Visit the web page, “What’s Next?” at [AwakeningLibrary.com](http://AwakeningLibrary.com).

# Congratulations!

In doing this study together, you have taken an important step in partnering with Jesus, and with others around the world, in seeking God's heart for an awakening in our time.

As you take steps to apply what you have learned, we encourage you to do so with a commitment to prayer, radical humility, sustained hope, and a willingness to serve in any way that God would have you.

These are precious days; visit our website's "What's Next?" page for ways to join with other like-minded followers of Jesus in prayer, learning, and community.

Together, let's sow for a great awakening.

Seedbed and New Room

[AwakeningLibrary.com](http://AwakeningLibrary.com)

Sow righteousness for yourselves,  
reap the fruit of unfailing love,  
and break up your unplowed ground;  
for it is time to seek the Lord,  
until he comes and showers his righteousness on you.

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Hosea 10:12



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