

# FIRESTARTERS 5

## PRAYER TOOL

Igniting Prayer for Revival in our City • 5 Minutes to Read • 5 Minutes in Prayer

**FOR THE WEEK OF June 27th - July 3rd, 2021** - Vol 61

### THEME VERSE:

*I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind;  
and your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your old men will dream dreams...*

**Joel 2:28**

### THE GOD OF REVIVAL:

#### The 1909 Chile Revival

In 1889, a doctor from Chicago, Willis Hoover, arrived as a missionary to the country of Chile in South America. Although he started by teaching English to the locals, he eventually was assigned by his Methodist Episcopal denomination to begin pastoring a church in the city of Valparaiso, Chile, in 1902. During that year, there was a strong renewal of interest in prayer and evangelism that swept across many churches in that region. As Hoover's congregation studied the book of Acts that year, they grew bolder and more passionate for God.

In 1904, Hoover and his family returned to the United States for their furlough. Another minister stepped in during this period to lead the church, but great difficulties lay ahead for Hoover even after he returned. In 1905, the city was devastated by a smallpox epidemic that limited their opportunities to gather. Then, in 1906, a huge earthquake struck Valparaiso and leveled the church building. The growth of the church seemed to grind to a halt.

News about waves of revival in India and in Asuza Street in the United States started to trickle in to Hoover and his church family in the year 1907. As Hoover himself reached out to the revival leaders of his time, he and his church began to conclude that there was far more that God wanted to make available to them. They began seeking the Lord with a fresh and fierce hunger.

In December 31st of 1908, while the church's new building was still under construction, Hoover called an all-night prayer meeting. With about 100 Christians in attendance, the group spontaneously at one point began falling to their knees to cry out fervently to God. They prayed out loud all at the same time, with a sound like the sound of many waters ebbing and flowing. This would happen many times over the next few days. On January 14th, one man received a vision from Jesus that exhorted Hoover to call his leaders to pray every day for a coming baptism of fire. Hoover agreed to gather such a group to pray each day at 5PM. A month later during prayer, the group experienced a strong sense of the sweet manifest presence of God in their midst. It caused them to weep profusely and also to sing or to laugh wholeheartedly. By Easter in April of that year, a full-on revival broke out as the church experienced an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the people. As in past revivals, individuals saw visions, while some fell prostrate upon the ground, and others groaned in deep intercession. Great conviction of sin was coupled with an experience of intense joy and a powerful sense of love among the believers.

Over the next few months, the attendance at the church exploded. Evangelism took on a fresh new urgency coupled with supernatural power. The flames of revival spread to numerous cities up and down the coast. As revival rippled through the many towns and urban areas, the Holy Spirit began to transform the very moral fiber of society.

Sadly, Satan would stir up jealousy and bitter skepticism among the established religious leaders. The cruel opposition would force Hoover to leave his position at the church in 1910 and to establish

a brand-new movement spearheaded by the local believers in Chile. This movement, over time, would bring nearly 1 million members into its group, with about 15% of the population of Chile in 2020 identifying with it. The small church that Hoover had once pastored would grow and blossom into one of the largest churches in the world today with over 150,000 members. What God began in 1909 with a surge of fresh revival fire has continue to blaze boldly among Christ-followers all throughout Chile.

## **THE GOD WHO ANSWERS PRAYERS:**

- Praise God for the start of more initiatives citywide to foster and stimulate prayer among all believers. Thank God for what the ministry of For Charlotte is doing to establish a platform for other prayer ministries to join together and work together. May we see prayer taking place 24-7 around the clock for salvations, discipleship, and for revival!

## **PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK:**

### FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CITY:

- **RISING PRICES.** Pray that the fast-rising prices of common goods in our country will only be temporary and that things will go back to normal soon. Pray that God will provide for the needs of many families that are finding their finances stretched thin.
- **COVID-19.** Pray against the spread of any variants of the COVID-19 virus among the nations. Pray that God would bring healing to our country and abroad. May God give us good tools to eradicate this disease completely soon, and may God be honored for His role in this.

### FOR JOBS, BUSINESSES, AND THE ECONOMY:

- **SHORTAGES.** Pray for businesses being impacted by the acute labor shortages and by supply chain issues. These are causing material shortages and increasing costs. Pray that the root cause of these problems will be identified and dealt with quickly before any long-term damage ensues.
- **OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW CHRIST'S LOVE.** Pray that Christ-followers in the marketplace - employees, employers, and contractors - will respond to opportunities to show the love of Jesus to those who are not convinced of the truth of the Gospel; that they will be diligent in praying for them; and proactive in building relationships with them, witnessing to them, and discipling them.

### FOR LOCAL MINISTRIES AND REVIVAL:

- **LOVE LIFE MINISTRY.** Pray for more Pastors to feel convicted and moved to become involved with Love Life's ministry to pray for an end to abortion and to facilitate the choice to choose life for the unborn. That people will be set free from past abortions as more pastors make their church a safe place to mothers in need and post-abortive mothers. That more people in the Church will be moved by the Holy Spirit to get involved beyond the prayer walks.
- **REVIVAL.** *"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can as long as ever you can."* That is not a modern day quote but the rule for Christian living that John Wesley, father of the Methodist Church, lived by. He died in 1791 at 87 years of age, and he had been mightily used by God to serve and lead in the 1st Great Awakening in America. May God raise up many men and women today who have the same heart and intensity and perseverance as Wesley in order to pursue God's honor and see a fresh powerful spiritual Awakening today!

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