

FIRESTARTERS 5

PRAYER TOOL

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

FOR THE WEEK OF Aug 15th-21st, 2021 - Vol 68

THEME VERSE:

*The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him
—may your hearts live forever!*

Psalm 22:26

THE GOD OF REVIVAL:

The 1995 Mexico Revival (part 1)

Sometimes God brings a revival through someone who is a visiting evangelist or newly planted in the region. At other times, He chooses to release Holy Spirit fire upon the work of a servant who has been serving faithfully for years or decades. Such is the story of how God ignited the revival fires in Mexico in 1995.

David Hogan and his family had committed to serve in Mexico in the 1970's, laboring among native peoples near Tampico, an area located a little northeast of Mexico City. In 1981, David established a new work called Freedom Ministries to build up a team of missionaries to focus especially on reaching the furthest Mexican mountain tribes. It became common practice for his team to persistently pray and fast for breakthrough as they served among the villages.

On one visit to a remote village in 1995, David met with a local pastor who was in dismay over unexpected expressions of the Holy Spirit in his church: weeping, loud laughing, and folks falling to the ground. David was cautious at first. He had longed to see a true revival in Mexico for decades, but he wanted to make sure it was genuinely from God. He sought to guard against any copycat behavior that might arise from hearing what was happening in Toronto or elsewhere. He called on his ministry team to join him for a month of intense fasting in September of 1995. As he met with local ministers, David would witness the Spirit of God touching these seasoned leaders powerfully in very physical and tangible ways. Healing would often break out as people sensed the fire of God released upon the room. Finally, David felt it was time to gather even more leaders together.

It was October 25th when over 200 regional pastors gathered for a conference at a church along with its regular congregation. As usual, David began to speak from the Word of God. That first day carried a strong sense of God's presence, and it led to many healings and much encouragement for the pastors and the people. The next day, Thursday, brought an even more powerful wave of God's activity, and the Lord moved wonderfully from the start at 8AM all the way until it wrapped up at 10PM. But the third day was when God would release an unprecedented outflow of the river of God!

Now, as the third day of the conference got underway, many of the local leaders had stayed up all night to pray and were amazed at the profound sense of God's presence that appeared. Many people felt the heaviness of God's glory upon them. Some felt intense heat in that place, even early in the morning, when it was normally much cooler. As David walked to the front and prepared to speak from the Bible, he felt the Spirit urge him to call the 9 elders of the church to the stage. There, he invited them to join him in solemnly committing to see all of Mexico touched by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They agreed. As they made this covenant, they all were overwhelmed by the Spirit, with many falling back or collapsing to the ground. People, believers and unbelievers alike, were amazed at God's grace and compassion at work in their midst. As miracles and

healings intensified, it was clear that this was a day where God had chosen to ignite and set ablaze His revival power once again.

THE GOD WHO ANSWERS PRAYERS:

- Praise God for how He is working through the Jessi and Parker Green revival meetings in Locust, NC. Thank God for the healings and deliverances and powerful sense of God's presence here in our city. Praise God also this week for how He answered prayers for the needs of various clients at the Monroe Pregnancy Center, helping them to find classes to deal with their trials.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK:

FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CITY:

- **CONFUSING VALUES.** Charlotte's Mayor Lyles and the City Council unanimously passed a non-discrimination ordinance that bans employers from discriminating against a person based on their several factors, including sexual orientation, gender identity, or natural hairstyles. While admirable in its attempt to end unjust bias, it does muddle the waters when some of the factors are self-proclaimed personal preferences. Pray for Godly wisdom and moral clarity for our city's leaders.
- **COVID-19 MASKING.** There are many discussions happening about reviving the mask mandate in North Carolina in various counties. Pray that we can find a path where there is consensus and freedom to choose the best path for our communities. Pray for a balance of personal health safety and economic viability for our communities. Pray, of course, that God would quickly end this pandemic too.

FOR THE WORLD AND MISSIONS:

- **MANILA ORPHANAGE.** Please pray for Gentle Hands Orphanage in Manila. Missionaries recently wrote, "We have now been quarantined in our house for 514 days. Most of our children have not been outside for very long but we continue to make the best of it." Adding to this, Manila has just ordered another lockdown! Pray for God's protection and care for their ministry.
- **MISSIONARIES TO TURKEY.** Please pray for housing for two missionary families who are heading to Turkey in January. They are currently on a scouting trip searching for long-term housing for their team. Also pray for a young family, moving to Jordan to work with YWAM Aug 16th. Pray for their transition and language learning and their baby due in December 2021.

FOR LOCAL MINISTRIES AND REVIVAL:

- **LOCAL PASTORS.** Pray for pastors: that they and church leaders be filled with wisdom, that they will be honored by those they serve, that God will pour His Spirit upon them in power and humility and give them fresh intimacy with Jesus. Pray also for protection from the plots of the evil one against them and their families. And pray for deep friendships with other pastors. (1 Peter 5:2, 7)
- **REVIVAL.** Jesus said, "Come to Me...take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29. Pray for many to truly seek after God, and to hear Christ's call to be changed in heart. For God to intercept runaway lives so that we can be trained in the ways of Jesus' heart. For Christ's humility to replace deeply rooted arrogance. May God revive our hearts and bring historic revival!

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