

## A Season of Prayer and Fasting – Week Six

### Praying for Revival

In a time of national difficulty and great distress in Israel, perhaps a drought and severe famine after the Jews had returned from exile, and the psalmist prayed:

“Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger through all generations?

<sup>6</sup>Will you not revive us again,  
that your people may rejoice in you?

<sup>7</sup>Show us your unfailing love, Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.” Psalm 85:5-7

Revive – the word stirs up thoughts of those critical moments when a person’s heart has stopped beating and CPR is applied, or perhaps doctors have shocked a lifeless body with a defibrillator. The hope is to bring a person to life again, which is the meaning of revive.

Revival always begins in the Church, among those who already profess faith in Christ, and then spreads beyond its walls to the community. It is a call to Christians who, in their own eyes and in the eyes of many, are doing much good. Yet God says to them “You have forsaken your first love” (Revelation 2:5). It is a call to believers who ‘have a reputation of being alive but are dead’ (Revelation 3:1).

Congregations and even denominations hold ‘revivals’, but when true revival takes place or ‘breaks out’ as it is often described, the Church goes into overdrive to keep up with what the Holy Spirit is doing. Revival is usually the fruit of seasons of prayer and is manifested among God’s people in personal conviction regarding sin (week one of our prayer time), boldness in sharing Jesus with others (week three) and the healing of family relationships (week four). In our prayer times this week we pray for the Holy Spirit’s mighty reviving work among us, our community and country.

### Monday, August 8

#### *Morning*

“But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> about sin, because people do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.” John 16:7-11

\*Pray the Holy Spirit comes in power and conviction, opening the hearts and eyes of people regarding their sin and the need for genuine repentance and forgiveness.

\* Pray they will come to faith in Jesus as the Son of God and the Savior of the world.

## ***Evening***

“What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. <sup>27</sup> If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. <sup>28</sup> If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.” 1 Corinthians 14:26-28

\*Pray the Holy Spirit will build up Calvary through His spiritual gifts, the reading and proclaiming of His Word, and His sacraments.

\*Pray our worship will always be sincere, orderly and pleasing to God

## **Tuesday, August 9**

### ***Morning***

“Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup> He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.” John 12:31-33

\*Pray the Holy Spirit will work mightily to draw the unsaved to Jesus.

\*Pray by name for unsaved friends, neighbors and relatives to be drawn to Jesus.

### ***Evening***

“But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, <sup>25</sup> as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!” 1 Corinthians 14:26-28

\*Pray for sensitivity and courage to share the messages the Holy Spirit inspires us to speak.

\*Pray for guests who attend our worship to experience the stirring of God’s Spirit, the conviction of sins where needed and the awakening of a hunger for Jesus.

## **Wednesday, August 10**

### ***Morning***

“Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. <sup>20</sup> To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. <sup>21</sup> To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law), so as to win those not having the law. <sup>22</sup> To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. <sup>23</sup> I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.” 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

\*Pray for the evangelistic fervor Paul demonstrates in these verses, the humility to become all things to all people, the expectation God will use our witness to save some for eternity.

### ***Evening***

“This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. <sup>4</sup> God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.” Hebrews 2:3b-4

\*Ask the Holy Spirit to continue to pour out His Spiritual gifts on His people and to testify to the salvation Jesus won for us through signs, wonders and various miracles.

## **Thursday, August 11**

### ***Morning***

“But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, <sup>9</sup> because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.” 1 Corinthians 16:8-9

\*Pray the Holy Spirit will reveal the doors for effective work in our community.

\*Pray for the courage to stand firm against those who oppose us and our witness to the Gospel.

### ***Evening***

“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-13

\*Pray that God will raise up among us members to serve as pastors, teachers, evangelists and prophets.

\*Pray He will help us recognize these gifts and callings in our young people, that we would encourage them and lift them in prayer.

## **Friday, August 12**

### ***Morning***

“Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup> Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.” 1 Timothy 1:15-17

\*Pray for the courage to share our stories, the places of fear, sin and brokenness we have known, with those experiencing similar circumstances.

\*Pray the Holy Spirit, Who never wastes a wound, will use our witness to encourage others to trust Jesus.

### ***Evening***

“The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.”<sup>44</sup> Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.<sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”<sup>46</sup> “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip.” John 1:43-46

\*Pray for passion among God’s people at Calvary to bring the unsaved to experience Jesus in our fellowship activities and ministry opportunities.

\*Pray what they see and experience will lead to questions about ‘the hope we have’ as believers.

## **Saturday, August 13**

### ***Morning***

“To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again.<sup>9</sup> I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know about the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.<sup>10</sup> Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.<sup>11</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.” Revelation 2:8-11

\*Pray the Holy Spirit will strengthen us to be faithful, godly witnesses in our trials and times of persecution.

\*Pray our struggles and sufferings for Christ will carry with it the Gospel seed.

### ***Evening***

“He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground.<sup>27</sup> Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.<sup>28</sup> All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head.<sup>29</sup> As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.” Mark 4:26-29

The planted seed grows naturally, ‘all by itself/automatically’.

\*Pray the precious Gospel seed sown in faith will reap a bountiful harvest of new believers.

\*Pray God will bring new families to Calvary through our witness and through His divine appointments.