

FIRESTARTERS 5

PRAYER TOOL

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

FOR THE WEEK OF Dec 6th-11th, 2020 - Vol 32

THEME VERSE:

*For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous
and his ears are attentive to their prayer,
but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.*

1 Peter 3:12

THE GOD OF REVIVAL:

The 1904 Welsh Revival: A Land of Revivals (Pt 1)

The country of Wales lies along the western coast of Great Britain, and its history is punctuated with stories of spiritual heroes of the Christian faith and great awakenings. In fact, Wales is commonly known as "The Land of revival" and "The Land of song" because of how deeply these aspects of faith have been etched into their collective experience. In 1735, one of the first of many mighty revivals swept across their land and birthed many outreaches and new churches. In the Welsh Revival of 1859, God put his anointing upon the revivalist David Morgan to lead 100,000 townsfolk to put their faith in Christ and pledge to follow God wholeheartedly. Each revival would bring its own unique emphases, its special songs, its particular reminders of God's presence among the people. God has granted a rich legacy of revivals upon the Welsh believers. Yet towards the end of the 19th century, even Wales was exhibiting a pervasive coldness of heart towards Christ, as the people became more and more absorbed with worldly ideas and distractions. Attendance for worship and prayer dropped to all-time lows, and the leaders noted a distinct lack of spiritual power in the Church.

In 1899, the Holy Spirit began to blow on the embers of Welsh hearts, stirring a burning desire in the church to pray once again. Specifically, over the next 4 years, numerous intercessory groups were birthed with a keen focus on revival. By 1903, young men and women regularly gathered in crowds to join in prayer for revival on a mountaintop near the town of Pencoed. Ministers of varying denominations across Wales pledged to pray together for spiritual awakening. And, after the first Keswick Convention in Wales in 1903, the cry unto the Lord for a fresh revival intensified all the more.

In early 1904, the first flames of revival started to burst to life. Rosina Davies was an evangelist who traveled across Wales that year, conducting hundreds of meetings, sharing the Gospel, and seeing a significant display of God's power in the seaside town of New Quay. Pastor Joseph Jenkins was a minister at the local Methodist church there, and he talked about his own journey and his longing for more of the Holy Spirit. This impacted his church deeply. On February 14th, after the Sunday morning worship, the youth gathered to pray and to discuss what they were hearing. At one point, a young woman named Florrie Evans stood up and publicly spoke out, saying simply: "I love the Lord Jesus with all my heart!" At these words, the Holy Spirit distinctly released a fresh powerful outpouring of God's presence upon the young people. Many responded with impassioned prayers. Others were baptized that very afternoon. The fires of revival began to spread throughout this town and out to nearby towns. In this first phase of the Welsh revival, the early flames jumped to a good number of local churches in the region. But God was not done yet, and He would raise up others to carry the fire throughout the nation and across the globe.

THE GOD WHO ANSWERS PRAYERS:

- **ADVANCES DURING PANDEMIC.** Although the numbers have been going up in our nation for COVID-19 recently, praise God that there are numerous options arising, in terms of a variety of vaccines and treatments to lessen its severity. Continue to pray for God to reveal more scientific breakthroughs in this area and for His healing power to touch many lives.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK:

FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CITY:

- **CHARITABLE PROGRAMS.** Pray that more programs and volunteer efforts would be started to help the needy in our communities. Pray for enough manpower, finances, and resources to handle requests for assistance.
- **COVID-19.** As mentioned earlier, please keep praying for God to protect our communities and to bring more advances to contain and eradicate the disease. Pray that the church can compassionately minister to those most affected by this illness. Pray for divine healing and supernatural peace.
- **ELECTION CONCERNS.** Pray for all issues of election irregularities across the nation to be looked at and resolved soon in a fair and just fashion. Ask the Lord to help us discern what is true amidst all the media confusion and that He would definitively expose any corruption or lies.

FOR NEEDS OF MISSIONS AND THE WORLD:

- **FOR SRI LANKA.** Pray for God to send missionaries to this large island off of the southern coast of India. Pray for the people of this land. In the last 16 years they have experienced a devastating tsunami and a bloody civil war. Poverty is everywhere along with the ills associated with it. The people, whose primary language is Tamil, are considered 84% unreached according to Operation World.
- **FOR THE DEAF POPULATION.** Pray for the deaf population in Japan - about 250,000. Only 2% of this population has been reached with the Bible. Currently only 33% of the Bible has been translated into a video sign language they can understand. Pray the work to be finished soon.

FOR LOCAL MINISTRIES AND REVIVAL:

- **LOCAL CHURCHES.** Pray that churches will find ways to bless their neighbors and communities this Christmas season. Psalm 67 teaches us that we seek God's blessing and grace so that we can share it with a world in need. Pray for supernatural blessings upon our churches that then can be given to those around us in Jesus' name.
- **VISION.** Ask God to grant pastors and congregations a fresh vision for 2021, past the pandemic, past the fear, and into a new year of hope and favor in the Lord.
- **REVIVAL.** Pray for a reviving work among churches struggling in these challenging times. It will take a God-sized movement to turn those churches from decline to Kingdom-effectiveness – but nothing is too difficult for Him! Ask for a longing for revival to burn brightly in our hearts!

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