

# FIRESTARTERS 5

PRAYER  
TOOL

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

**FOR THE WEEK OF March 21st-27th, 2021 - Vol 47**

**THEME VERSE:**

*....praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.  
To that end, keep alert with all perseverance,  
making supplication for all the saints.*

Ephesians 6:18

**THE GOD OF REVIVAL:**

**The 1936 East African Revival: Waves of Revival (Part 2)**

The East African Revival of 1936 would be one of the longest lasting revivals in modern history, spanning about 50 years. From 1927-1936, God would position his revival-minded sons and daughters in just the right places, connecting them in supernatural ways, and setting a new passion in their hearts for the Good News and for revival prayer. In June of 1936, the Diamond Jubilee of the founding of the Anglican Church in Uganda became the history-making occasion for the volcanic eruption of this great awakening. For several years prior to the event, one of the key leaders Bishop Stuart was convinced that only revival could solve the dire challenges swamping the church. Much prayer and preparation proceeded with this truth in mind. During the 1936 celebration, strong Bible teaching stirred up personal conviction of sin and testimonies of God's power and songs of praise. They stressed internalizing the death of Christ and complete surrender to the Spirit. Out of this time, 40 student leaders were irrevocably set ablaze and sent out to carry revival throughout Uganda.

In Gahini, Rwanda, a week of prayer led by the Uganda revivalists was soon followed by an outbreak of Holy Spirit fire that consumed the entire church of Rwanda and other regions like Kigezi and Burundi and Kabale. The Holy Spirit would guide the evangelists to boldly confront chieftains to exhort them to repent of their sin and turn to God. One chief listened intently as if hearing a word from God, and he ordered the revivalist to solemnly write it all down. During the many outdoor meetings convened, the Holy Spirit would move forcefully among the hearts of those gathered. People would receive visions from Christ. Some would weep uncontrollably over their sin, while others would lift up loud testimonies of praise. Some might faint or fall down in worship. Regularly songs burst forth with resounding joy, and many confessed experiencing a sweet nearness to God unlike any time prior.

As the revivalists increased in number and carried the flames out to more areas, a new kind of African Christian was birthed and identified: They were called the Abaka (those who are on fire)! These fiery ones sacrificially and courageously took revival fire throughout the villages and into the neighboring nations. They adopted another name - Balokole -, meaning "the saved ones", which initially was meant to be a derogatory name from the revival's critics, yet these Christians gladly embraced the name to give all the honor to their Savior Jesus Christ. There would be obstacles and challenges, as in all revivals, but the revival would bring all Christian denominations together in time, and build increased unity and deeper fellowship between the Europeans and the Africans, between blacks and whites, between young and old.

By 1942, the African Rwanda Mission alone had converted 20,000 new believers, across more than 700 village congregations, to join the family of God. As messengers of the awakening travelled around, even more revivals burst to life in the 1950's in the countries of Burundi, Sudan, Congo,

Kenya, and Tanzania. Revivals continued to surge afresh in all these regions through the 1980's. It would engulf an entire generation and more in the Holy Spirit's fresh fire, touching millions of Africans and assisting in raising up a vital new generation of African ministers for the nations of East Africa. And even today, many re-tell the old stories of this great outpouring, and many still resonate in their hearts the cry once again for revival!

## THE GOD WHO ANSWERS PRAYERS:

- **HOSPITALIZATIONS DOWN.** Praise God that nationwide the number of cases of COVID-19 requiring hospitalization has dropped significantly recently. Thank God that it seems the tide is turning rapidly so that the end of the pandemic is in sight. This indeed will be over one day.

## PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK:

FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CITY:

- **RE-OPENING BUSINESSES.** Even as the marketplace begins to open more and more, pray that all businesses will maintain respectful relationships and safe, healthy interactions among all parties. Pray that consumers will feel comfortable returning to in-person shopping, dining, travel, and recreation as exposures are reduced and restrictions are lifted.
- **MARKETPLACE TRANSFORMATION.** It has long been said that the next great revival will emerge from the marketplace. Pray that the Lord would raise up leaders to ignite the fires of revival, leading the way by modeling lives of humility, repentance, prayer, and seeking God. Pray for the establishment of workplace Bible studies, prayer gatherings, and service to others, especially unto the homeless, the fatherless and the unemployed
- **PANDEMIC.** Pray for God's protection and healing power over COVID-19 in our nation. Pray that fear and lockdowns would end, that normal relationships can increasingly take place safely.

FOR MINISTRIES AND REVIVAL:

- **LOVE LIFE CHARLOTTE.** As 5 new cities are launching soon for the 5th year anniversary of Love Life Charlotte, pray that the Lord will bless the growth of this pro-life ministry and add more cities nationwide by raising up new missionaries to be trained! Also pray that more churches and pastors will be gripped with the reality of abortion in their city and be moved to get involved. Finally, pray for good health and refreshing rest for the entire team and staff.
- **LOCAL CHURCHES.** Pray that pastors and all church leaders will be filled with supernatural wisdom, that they will be honored by those they serve, and that God will pour His Spirit upon them in new ways with power. Pray for ongoing humility, for fresh intimacy with Jesus each day, and for protection against the plots of the evil one. Pray for deep friendships with other leaders.
- **REVIVAL.** Pray for the voice of Jesus to be heard by His people. Ask that the Shepherd God would restore many who have wandered far from Him, that believers would become life-giving streams of God's Spirit, and that many who are spiritually lost will hear Jesus calling them to come to Him and drink. May the Lord pour out His Spirit to unleash a great awakening!

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