

FIRESTARTERS 5

PRAYER TOOL

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

FOR THE WEEK OF Oct 31st-Nov 6th, 2021 - Vol 79

THEME VERSE:

Let the heart of those who seek the Lord be glad.

1 Chronicles 16:10

THE GOD OF REVIVAL:

Revivals of the Carolinas: The Moravian Effect (Part 3)

The Moravian revival, which had begun in 1727 under Count Zinzendorf, had ignited in their community an extraordinary prayer life and also an intense commitment to world missions. It was as if God had irresistibly invited them to greater depths of intimacy with Himself while also revealing His fervent heart for the lost. It was not too long before they launched a non-stop prayer watch in their midst and sent out their own evangelists into the world.

As the Moravians spread out across the globe as missionaries, they left a far bigger impact than most people realized. When they first came to the Americas in 1735 to start a colony in Georgia, it did not work out because of nearby military conflicts. Yet, even during this setback, the Moravians impressed many onlookers with their strong work ethic and their resilient faith in Christ. They eventually established a settlement in Pennsylvania in 1741, which they named Bethlehem.

God continued to give favor to this faithful group of believers. When the British government officially recognized the Moravian Church in 1749 as having legal status alongside the State Church of England, it opened up new doors for sponsors and funding. When the Earl of Granville, who held vast tracts of land in the Carolinas, was looking for potential settlers for a new colony, he heard about the hard-working and morally-outstanding Moravians. He would, in due time, offer to sell to them 100,000 acres of land in North Carolina at a very good price. The Moravians would call this land area Wachovia.

They sent out a party of explorers in 1752 to find locations that they could establish their villages unto the Lord. It was an arduous journey over several months, filled with hundreds of miles of forest and mountains, battling with mosquitoes and disease, and even getting lost for a time. They travelled as far northwest as Boone, then got redirected to the area of present-day Moravian Falls, and finally found an ideal location that would one day be the city of Salem. As they established new towns, they continued to worship God enthusiastically and to pray without ceasing. Wherever they could, they would continue the practice of 24-7 prayer. Some might say that their prayers unto Heaven paved the way for future revivals in the Carolinas.

All during this time, they would also seek every opportunity to take the Gospel to nearby colonists, to the American Indians, and to the slaves. By the 1800's, the Moravians would set up missions work among the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina. When many of the Cherokees were forcibly moved in 1838 along the "Trail of Tears" to Oklahoma, several Moravians uprooted themselves and re-located with them in order to keep on ministering to them. During this time, God would use the Moravians to establish a new work among the African slaves in Salem and elsewhere.

The city of Charlotte, North Carolina, is located just about 80 miles south of Moravian Falls. Over the years, the city developed and kept growing to become the largest city in the state. Some Moravians made their way to Charlotte and settled there. By 1897, it was observed that a "hearty" community was developing there. In 1920, the Moravian bishop Rondthaler established their first

church in Charlotte, built on donated land in the Myers Park neighborhood. It would go on to significantly impact the city for Christ through the newspaper, radio, and Easter events. As the Moravians have stayed anchored in God's Word, fixed upon Christ, wedded to unwavering prayer, and committed to missions worldwide, they have been used by God to prepare the way for God's Kingdom work and for the revival-to-come.

THE GOD WHO ANSWERS PRAYERS:

Praise God for how He is touching lives through ministries like Love Life Charlotte! Its God-exalting, life-affirming ministry of rescue has brought many churches together across many cities in our nation. This past week, over 420 attendees nationwide joined in a local prayer walk near an existing abortion clinic. In the end, 22 families chose life for their child and walked away from the clinics, and 1 individual gave their life to the Lord!

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK:

FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CITY:

- **COVID-19 UPDATE.** Please pray for God's healing power and mercy to flood over our cities and around the world. Pray that God would use medicines and medical staff to help those who are sick. Pray specifically that the numbers of infection and deaths would keep on going down, even with the colder darker days of winter on the horizon. Pray for the name of Jesus to be lifted up and praised as God extends His hand to heal our nation.
- **SCHOOLS.** Keep praying that the ongoing issues with violence and sexual immorality in our high schools in Charlotte would be resolved. Pray for healing for those victimized by all this, and for mercy and repentance to come upon those perpetrating these incidents.

FOR JOBS AND THE ECONOMY:

- **GOD'S PROTECTION.** Pray regarding businesses and workers impacted by COVID-19, supply chain issues, and surging inflation. Pray for stability and predictability in our economy. Pray for individuals and their families hurt by the squeeze of rising prices everywhere and the uncertainties of holding a job in the midst of lockdowns and excessive mandates.
- **REVIVAL ANTICIPATION.** God blessed the recent Marketplace Breakfast richly as 300 business leaders showed up at Truist Field on a beautiful fall morning to hear Casey Crawford and Stick Williams speak about loving your neighbor in the marketplace. The Holy Spirit's presence was evident, and there was a sense of a hunger for revival in our city once again. May those sparks erupt into a flame that will encompass all our neighborhoods and beyond!

FOR OTHER MINISTRIES AND REVIVAL:

- **LOVE LIFE.** Pray for Bob Reeder (Justin Reeder's father) to be healed from pneumonia and sepsis. That he will be released from the hospital soon and see full healing over his body. Also pray that all of Love Life's partnering churches in all cities will faithfully attend the Week 40 prayer walk (on November 13th). Please pray, in addition, for trainings of current missionaries on West coast and East Coast in December and for the Love Life California Conference in January.
- **REVIVAL.** Pray that God would have the foremost place in our hearts. For Christians and congregations in our city to repent of any false hopes and idols in our lives. Pray that God would draw our hearts into profound intimacy with Him and to deeply echo His heart's longings for salvation around the world. O God, set our hearts on fire once again. Wake us up, stir us gently and resolutely. Bring Your favor. Bring Your blessing. Bring revival fire once again!

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