

The Revivalist

A M I N I S T R Y O F T H E R I V E R ' S E D G E C H U R C H

I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs..

ESV Luke 11:8

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C O N S I D E R O U R F R I E N D

As I write these lines this month we celebrate and mourn the beginning of the sixth year of prayer for revival. We celebrate the fact that we have found grace to continue, yet I mourn that we have not went beyond this seemingly adequate desire for revival.

Sad truths permeate our lives and the fact that less people are praying with us now than at the beginning doesn't really motivate any of us, but we continue.

It is no great accomplishment, though I am sure the flesh would like to glory in this apparent dedication, but that is simply the flesh. We have done nothing radical, indeed we can hardly glory when we only do what we are asked to do by Christ.

Honestly the Spirit of God began to speak to me concerning this great need of revival some 23 years ago and I basically ignored such for the vast majority of this time! Then He brought us together with others who saw the same pressing needs and how shall we commend ourselves because we finally said yes to something after all of these years?

The problem is, it is not enough to simply say "yes" or even to simply pray for revival beloved: we must pray properly for revival and we must yield to the rushing wind of the Holy Spirit.

Am I suggesting that we have prayed in vain for all of these years, or that we have prayed amiss? Not at all, but it is no great and noble thing to simply pray for something. The great thing, the thing that moves the heart of God is the prayer of faith, not just routine prayer or the reciting of so many words.

The prayer of faith is the prayer that lays hold of the promise and refuses to relent until such comes to fruition and we have not seen the fruit of revival!

The crowds of teachers we have heard over the years, specifically those among the so-called Word movement would tell us even now that we simply have failed to claim it, to receive it or in those infamous words of a former pastor, we didn't "fake it until we make it" properly!

Beloved we refuse to believe such shabby and shallow theology, but we embrace the truth revealed to us from the start: pray until you actually have what is promised! Some superficial acceptance, or fervent quoting of scriptural formulas will not suffice for those who are spiritually hungry, nor should it.

Jesus revealed to us the secret of the real prayer of faith when He spoke of the friend that pounds on the door of another friend at midnight in need of bread for his visitors, and not once does Jesus hint that we should be content to simply walk away empty handed saying "Thank you for this bread!" On the contrary Jesus lays a foundation for prayer that refuses to take no for an answer!

Mind you brethren we are not propagating some nonsense suggestion that it is okay for you to demand of God whatever you want on a whim, hardly, for God is not bound to indulge my flesh, my pride, my ego and especially not my lust. What God does bind Himself to is His word, and His character will not change. He does not change the word that goes out of His mouth and He will not cease to be my friend in the midnight hour when I come in faith with my needs.

CONSIDER OUR FRIEND

How much more can I rely on God when I know that the thing I am praying for is nothing less than the thing He has ordained for us from old, the thing He promised repeatedly through the prophets and apostles?

Too often we have went before our friend and pounded on the door for a few minutes, then we have drawn back because we thought it would be imposing or out of line to ask, or perhaps a little humiliating that we did not have what we needed already on hand! Too often we have stirred our friend from sleep only to walk away prematurely from the door chanting "I know it's mine, I know it's mine!"

Beloved is it not apparent that the Church has knocked at midnight on Our Friend's door and left empty handed and made even more empty excuses to the visitors that were hungry at our home?

It will not suffice in these last days to give up before Our Friend comes to the door, because those who are coming to visit will not be able to survive unless we return with the real and substantial bread of the Holy Spirit!

When we have so many pressing in from every side saying "Give me a morsel or I will surely die" will we tell them I didn't want to keep knocking on my Friend's door at this late hour? Are you willing to look them in the eye and tell them you did not want to impose on the one that had plenty to give, the one that had told you to come at any time if you had a need?

Multitudes are coming (even as we write) into our lives, into our home and churches desperately seeking bread and we have been told what to do; we know who Our Friend is, but do we have the confidence that we can wake Him with an insistent plea and do we care enough to stay until He give us the bread we need to give others?

Five years of praying for revival has taught me that we are in more desperate need of revival than what I could ever imagine, but my heart does not want it enough! I am guilty, and I am not alone, for I have been willing to go to the altar of prayer time and again and return empty handed and we must get beyond this contentment with nothingness.

Those 120 blessed souls who prayed with expectation during the ten days after the ascension of Christ did not stop praying because someone believed they had received the promise of the Father; they prayed until they actually received! When the rushing wind and tongues of fire came in they figured this must be what Jesus told us to wait on, what the Master had promised, indeed Peter understood it was the fulfillment of ancient

prophecy before their very eyes.

We have more light, more revelation of the scripture than they could have imagined and an entire New Testament of promises before us, but we have been content to quote them and too spiritually lazy to actually lay hold of them.

Five years of praying for revival and what can we say unto those who are hungry still? I would think we should cover our faces with shame, but this will not feed anyone. We have no excuses that are any more legitimate than the rest of the Church and those who are hungry are not interested in excuses at all; they only want bread!

So what shall we do saints? Do we believe that we really have "A Friend in Jesus," or do we doubt the promise of this last days outpouring upon all flesh? Do we believe in the former and latter rain in this last time, the bride of Christ being made glorious before His return, or are we content to say "Be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body"?

Let us go forth in humble faith that Our Friend will never turn us down when we press upon Him to give us those things He has told us to give away freely from the beginning. Let us cast aside the nonsense doctrines that have led us to accept anything less than real answers to real prayers and let us lay hold of His promise of revival, fruit and restoration until we actually have something more to share than empty words for a multitude of hungry hearts.

Now let us consider even beyond this friendship with Christ, and understand that God is committed to honoring His word and the insistent, tenacious prayer that presses in regardless of the hour and He will assuredly rise to the occasion regardless of this relationship, or your performance, or your formula. He will rise because He hears the humble, persistent knocking of faith in His word and He knows it isn't going to let up without the answer!

TONY DINGESS



SUMMER BREEZE

Summer has wound down and so have I. Fall is in the air and I am reminded that to all things there is a season. Now, I have to admit I am more of a summer season kind of girl, but this one was just a little disappointing. You see the communal garden simply didn't do well at all. It was strange this year in the fact that those I spoke with, either their gardens did well, or they did little. Or some reported that one or two things were all that flourished while everything else faltered.

Please don't misunderstand, I am so grateful and thankful for those things we were able to freeze, can and dehydrate. And I am even more thankful for those things we were able to share. But, of course, me being me, I found myself talking to God and asking Him if I had really heard Him correctly when He said "plant a garden". I reminded Him that I took it literally in light of what my prayer petition was at that point in time. I was complaining that this season had been an awful lot of work for a very small yield and if I had heard Him incorrectly this would surely be the year to put an end to it. I was snarking again and whining to boot this time.

Of course He didn't answer me then. I know I had to be in the correct attitude because have you ever tried to talk to a kid that was sulking? So the only correct attitude He could find was when I was asleep and therefore, He sent a dream.

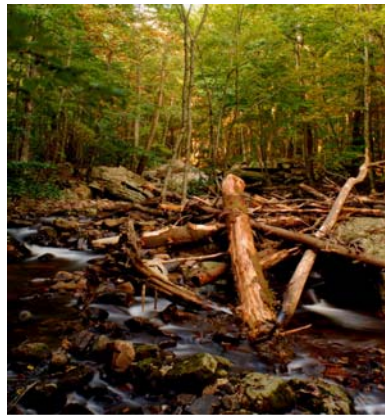
I am standing under a white canopy, looking out at a beautiful sunset. I was surrounded by wildflowers and trees. It seems my Appalachian home had invaded my dreams too.

All was right with the world and I was basking in the goodness of The

Lord, while there seemed to be a certain peace upon me that I had never experienced before.

After a time I noticed the wind had picked up just a little bit. A gentle summer breeze that brings with it the smell of honeysuckle. As I stand with my eyes closed, feeling the breeze against my face and relishing the scent wafting by, I begin to notice the wind has picked up a little more.

A short time later I notice it has kicked up a little more, kind of like it would do before a summer storm, but there wasn't a cloud in the sky. Then I open my eyes and look again and the trees are swaying back



"The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 3:10

and forth in the wind. I open my eyes again and see the trees are bent down kissing the ground. When I opened my eyes again I felt kind of like Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz. As I focused, I could see a tree that was further down the valley, being plucked up by the wind. Roots and all were coming out of the ground, it was spun around a couple of times then dropped to the grass carpet.

Then it was another one and then an-

other one. One tree would be plucked out while the one next to it was left standing. It didn't matter if the tree was healthy or sick, large or small, fruit bearing or not, oak or maple or pine did not matter. They were being destroyed by a devastating wind storm.

I continue to stand under my canopy watching these trees flying thru the air and for a brief moment I consider trying to head for cover, but realize that I am under the safest cover there is.

Over the course of the next few days, I asked for the meaning of this dream. So many things were as clear as mud, such it is with your own dreams, until He begins to reveal.

The Spirit of The Lord began to let me know the trees were a lesson of the things to come. A wheat and tares parable if you will. He let me know the trees represented "empires", created or planted by man, and it doesn't matter how deep the roots or how tall the tree, they are going to be plucked out.

Some are those in which we rely upon, hence some of the fruit trees being destroyed. It was made known this was the reason for the garden, as some of our support systems were just no longer going to be or our path to them may be blocked. This is why the gardening and preserving were so important, for many may have to rely upon very little.

The comfort to me was hearing as long as we stay under our "covering", meaning The Lamb and The Blood, listen to the wind, and obey, we shall be safe from the raging storm. Hallelujah!

Folks, our Lord is speaking to The Body of a great shaking and quaking that is coming. I know you hear it too. Get Ready. Get prepared. Our Lord Comes!

We love you, Marti Dolin

WE ARE ON THE WEB AT:
WWW.THE-RIVERSEDGE-CHURCH.COM

THE RIVER'S EDGE CHURCH

REPENTANCE, REFORMATION, REVIVAL, & RESTORATION

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Awake...and God shall give you light!

The River's Edge Church was born out of the desire for the return of the presence of God to the Church in holiness and awesome majesty. We believe that these last days shall be more astonishing than the days of the Book of Acts, and we believe in praying until we experience it!

We are focused on repentance, reformation, revival & restoration. We are praying for the body of Christ on the earth to arise from the death of comfort, self indulgence and greed and to truly allow the Spirit of Judgment & Burning to purify us from all our corruption!

Pray that we obey, and walk through the doors that open unto us. Alleluia!

ARE YOU A GOD SEEKER ?

This newsletter was sent to you because we heard you were a God seeker.

If you want more-it will be coming; that you can be sure of. If you don't, just let us know.

Above all, know that we love you.

The River's Edge Church is simply a group of believers with a common purpose; to bring glory to the Father by exalting the Name of Jesus and allowing the Holy Spirit to revive us and others through us. We have no certain location and we simply meet in various homes for prayer, communion, and whatever else the Holy Spirit has in mind from one week to the next.

Please give us a call if you would like to gather with us, or if you would like us to gather with you!

Our Lord is coming!

Step outta the box.

