

PRAYER FOR REVIVAL: HOW TO PRAY FOR

*God's Awakening in Your Heart,
Church, and Nation*

by Emily Adams

To pray for revival is to ask God to breathe new life back into whatever has grown dry—first in you, then in your church, then in your nation. Revival is His to give. But He has always given it to people on their knees in prayer. Every great awakening the Church has ever known was born in prayer long before it was ever seen in public.

PRAYER FOR REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Before you pray for your church or your nation, ask God to revive your own heart. The prayers that sparked history were stunningly personal, and you can pray them too. Make this language your own:

- "Revive me, Lord. Empty me of myself and fill me with Christ alone." (echoing Jonathan Edwards)
- "I thirst for You, God. Let rivers of living water flow out of me to others." (echoing George Whitefield and John 7:37-38)
- "Bend me, Lord. Whatever is stubborn or proud in me, soften it until I say yes to You." (echoing Evan Roberts and James 4:6)
- "Revive me again, Lord, that I may rejoice in You." (echoing Psalm 85:6)

Pray honestly. Name the places where your love for Jesus has cooled. Ask Him to make you thirsty again.

PRAYERS FOR CHURCH REVIVAL

If you long to see your church community come alive, ask Him to start in you! Here are some prayers with revival language you can adapt for your own church:

- "Lord, revive Your Church. Stir us out of going through the motions and make us hungry for Your presence again."
- "Unite us in love. Tear down the walls of comparison and offense, and let us truly be one Body of Christ."
- "Send Your Spirit into our gatherings. Let people meet the living Jesus here, not merely hear about Him."
- "Raise up More Kingdom Laborers from among us—ordinary people who love You and love their neighbors every day, everywhere."

PRAYER FOR REVIVAL IN YOUR NATION

When the prophet Daniel set out to pray for his nation, he did not begin with a list of everything wrong with it. He began on his knees, with Scripture open and his own heart laid bare. Daniel 9 is one of the great national prayers in all of Scripture. You can make Daniel's prayer your own:

- "Lord, we have wandered far from You—and I include myself. Have mercy on our land, not because we deserve it, but because Your compassion is great." (echoing Daniel 9:5,18)
- "Turn Your face toward our land again, Lord. Shine Your light where we have grown desolate, and draw a generation back to You." (echoing Daniel 9:17)
- "Lord, hear. Lord, forgive. Lord, listen and act—for Your own name's sake, do not delay." (echoing Daniel 9:19)
- "Even though we have rebelled, compassion and forgiveness belong to You, Lord. Restore our nation for Your glory." (echoing Daniel 9:9)

4 CONDITIONS GOD HONORS WHEN YOU PRAY FOR REVIVAL

- 1 Humility.** "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves..."Revival begins the moment we stop trying to manufacture it and admit we are desperate for God. This means praying as a beggar rather than a manager.
- 2 Repentance.** The verse continues, "...and turn from their wicked ways." Ask the Holy Spirit to search you. When He shows you something—big or small—agree with Him, confess it, let it go, and receive God's forgiveness.
- 3 Seeking.** God promises, "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13, CSB). Seeking means pursuing God Himself, not merely the experience of revival. Set aside unhurried time with Him.
- 4 Turning.** Revival is not only something we feel; it is a direction we walk. To turn is to reorder your life around God's priorities—your time, your relationships, your money, your mission.

HOW TO PRAY PERSISTENTLY FOR REVIVAL

Sometimes revival comes suddenly. More often, it comes to those who simply refuse to quit. If you have prayed for revival and not yet seen it, you are in good company.

Persistence isn't about convincing God to act; it is about trusting Him enough to keep knocking. Build prayer for revival into your daily rhythm. Pray with others—revival prayer has always been contagious. Keep a record of what you are asking for, and watch for His answers. The same God who stirred you to pray is the God who fully intends to respond. Slow answers are not silent ones. Often the delay is doing its own work in us, deepening the very humility and hunger that revival requires.

PRAYER FOR REVIVAL IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR
EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP. IT IS THE FUEL
FOR THEM. WHEN GOD REVIVES YOUR HEART,
YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO KEEP IT TO YOURSELF.



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