



# THE BEAUSEJOUR PULPIT

A COLLECTION OF SERMONS

CHRIS JORDAN

## **Praise for Chris Jordan's book *Supernatural*:**

God called us to live extraordinary lives on this earth, but so often people reduce Christianity to a self-help religion. God has so much more for us but we won't accomplish it unless we operate in the supernatural! Chris Jordan has outlined great principles on how to awaken the supernatural in your everyday life. We need you to fulfill your calling and move from the natural into the supernatural!

**John Bevere**, *international speaker and best-selling author of The Bait of Satan and Extraordinary. Messenger International.*

Supernatural is an inspiring, well-ordered book. Like a master painter, Chris Jordan begins by removing the useless scum of stale tradition off, and stirring up the gifts of the Holy Spirit that have been allowed to dissipate over the past couple of decades. He then, in a clear, doctrinally sound, well-illustrated way, brushes out the vivid color of God's plans and purposes for the church today. I am delighted to join with Pastor Chris as he brings vibrancy to this neglected, but necessary teaching that is as old as the Bible, but as new and promising as tomorrow.

~ **Barry Buzza**, *President of the Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada; Pastor of Northside Church in Coquitlam, BC and author of 15 books including Life Journey.*

Once in a great while you may be privileged to meet someone whose passionate love for God stirs a hunger in your own life for more... More of God's love, more of His power and a greater release of faith to see God move in compelling miraculous ways. Over the past eight years, Chris Jordan has been that one person who has challenged me through his actions and pursuits, to regain a fresh hunger for God.

I have been honored to walk alongside Chris for a portion of his supernatural journey, and can assure you that the concepts you are about to read are not couched solely in theory, but come to you from the crucible of contending for greater demonstration of the Holy Spirit's power in his own life and ministry. This book will be more than informational, or even inspirational, it will undoubtedly be life transformational.

~ **Steve Witmer**, *Pastor of Bible Fellowship Foursquare Church in Surrey, BC, and author of The Best Kept Secret in YWAM.*



**THE BEAUSEJOUR PULPIT**  
*A Collection of Sermons*

*Chris Jordan*

## The Beausejour Pulpit

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## PREFACE

It was Charles Haddon Spurgeon who inspired this volume you hold in your hands. Anyone who has heard me preach before has no doubt heard of Spurgeon, for I quote him often. This old Baptist pastor is affectionately referred to by many as 'The Prince of Preachers.' Allow me to share with you a brief introduction to his life.

“C. H. Spurgeon was to nineteenth-century England what D. L. Moody was to America. Although Spurgeon never attended theological school, by the age of twenty-one he was the most popular preacher in London. He preached to crowds of ten thousand at Exeter Hall and the Surrey Music Hall. Then when the Metropolitan Tabernacle was built, thousands gathered every Sunday for over forty years to hear his lively sermons. In addition to his regular pastoral duties, he founded Sunday schools, churches, an orphanage, and the Pastor's College. He edited a monthly church magazine and promoted literature distribution.” (W.Y. Fullerton, *Charles Haddon Spurgeon: A Biography*, quoted from [www.spurgeon.org](http://www.spurgeon.org)).



There are many things about Spurgeon's life that inspire me. He was a pastor who was dedicated to faithfully preaching the Word of God, and I too am a Bible preacher. One of the things that most inspires me about Spurgeon was his Penny Pulpit series. Influenced by another preacher, he decided to publish transcripts of his sermons every week, and in January of 1855, *The New Park Street Pulpit* was born. For seven years, he published these eight-page, small print sermons.

Once a tax on paper was abolished, he began publishing twelve page sermons in larger type and changed the title of them to the *Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*.

More than hundreds of millions of his weekly sermons were sold, and since then, they have been reproduced in numerous other ways. I have in my personal library several collections containing hundreds of Spurgeon's sermons, and they still inspire me today. This is how *The Beausejour Pulpit* was born.

In this little book, you will find a collection of transcripts of ten of the sermons that I preached at Beausejour Community Church over the past five years. In addition to these ten sermons you will find *Foursquare Foundations*, an examination of our church's statement of faith; *Faith in Focus*, a collection of twenty bi-weekly columns I wrote for our local community newspaper, and *Proverbs: Wisdom for Daily Living*, a 31 day devotional journey through the book of Proverbs.

Be forewarned: None of the messages in this book will win any kinds of literary awards. They are raw and relatively unedited, but they are records of some of the messages that I have shared with our church family in the first five years of pastoral ministry in Beausejour.

The first four messages will challenge you to seek after God in prayer and Bible reading. The next two messages will encourage you to contend for joy in your life. The three-part Origins series will answer some of the questions you may have about the creation versus evolution debate including a consideration of dinosaurs. The tenth message will introduce you to one of my favorite books of the Bible: Revelation.

Although my words are nowhere near as eloquent as Spurgeon's, I pray that God would breathe upon these messages and use them to inspire and encourage you in the Lord, just as Spurgeon's sermons have blessed me.

Pastor Chris Jordan  
Beausejour, MB  
January 2012

## HUNGER AND THE NEED FOR REVIVAL

God's desire is that this latter day's church would be greater in glory than the early church. It's time to contend for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our midst today and pray for revival.

“My soul clings to the dust; Revive me according to Your word.” (Psalm 119:25).

“O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years!” (Habakkuk 3:2).

The prophet Haggai said, “The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former.” (Haggai 2:9). That statement is troubling to me, knowing a little bit about the glory of God that existed in the early church.

When you read through the Book of Acts, you see how one day, when Peter preached the Gospel, 3,000 people were saved. There was another time when Peter saw a crippled man, and said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” This same Peter was so full of the Holy Spirit that they brought the sick out into the streets, so his shadow passing by might fall on some of them, and they were healed (Acts 5:15). This is a picture of a powerful and a glorious church.

Haggai said that the glory of the latter day's church would be greater than the former. We haven't seen that yet. That tells me that either God wasn't telling the truth, or we're missing something in the church today. I don't believe that God is a liar. He is a faithful, promise keeping God. If the church today is not more powerful and glorious than the church in Acts, then we must be doing something wrong. It's time to position ourselves to where we can experience the greater glory that God desires us to walk in.

For too long, the church has bought into the lie that says, “Yes, the church in the Book of Acts was glorious, there were signs and wonders, healings and miracles, but that was in the past.” Some people have this idea that the church is destined to be knocked down and continue diminishing over time, getting weaker and weaker until we're just barely hanging on for our lives until Jesus comes back to the Earth

to rescue us because we can't handle it any longer. I don't believe that this is the picture that Jesus gives us of the church.

Jesus used this parable to describe His church: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; *but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree*, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches." (Matthew 13:31-32).

We haven't seen anything yet in the Church. The best is yet to come! But why aren't we seeing it yet in the church? Maybe it's because we've been content to live without the manifested power, glory and kingdom of God in our midst. From the time that the Church was birthed on the day of Pentecost, there has always been a group of hungry believers who said, "I want to know God in a real way. I don't just want to sing songs or hear stories about what God did in the past. If Jesus Christ really is the same yesterday, today and forever, as Hebrews 13:8 declares, and He is the Lord who saves, heals, delivers, and transforms lives, then I want to know that Jesus today." We will encounter God in that way when we get hungry for His presence. Are you hungry for more than what we've seen in the church?

Jesus said: "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but wait... until you are endued with power from on high." (Luke 24:49). When Jesus started His church, He said to His disciples, "Before you do anything else, before you go out and do anything, wait for the power. I will give you the power to help you to do what I've called you to do."

It reminds me of a story I heard about a man who walked into a hardware store and asked for a chainsaw that would cut down six trees in one hour. The salesman recommended the top of the line model and the man bought it. The next day he brought it back and said, "This chainsaw is defective. It would only cut down one tree, and it took ALL DAY!" The salesman took the chain saw out back, started it up to see what was wrong and the customer jumped back and said, "What's that noise?"

He had the tool in his hand, but he wasn't plugged into the power. Too many people in the church haven't been connected to the power. Jesus said, "But you will receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be witnesses to me." (Acts 1:8). We need to plug into the power of the Holy Spirit.

Many years ago, we sang songs in the church that declared, "There's gonna be a revival in the land." We sang songs that said, "Lord, send revival," or "Revival fire fall." But I don't want to just sing

songs about revival - I want to see revival. There's a great song called Hosanna by the worship team in Hillsongs Australia that says:

*I see a generation, rising up to take their place,  
with selfless faith, with selfless faith  
I see a near revival, stirring as we pray and seek,  
we're on our knees, we're on our knees.*

That song resonates in my spirit. I see a near revival. It's near. It's close. We need to reach out and grab it. When Jesus said, "The Kingdom of God is at hand" He was telling us that it's as close as your hand when you hold it out in front of you. Let's get hungry and desperate for the reality of the power of God that sets people free.

## WHAT IS REVIVAL?

Some people think that revival is where thousands of people get saved. Although that is the fruit of revival, that is not revival. When God sends revival, the people of God are revived and refreshed, and then we see the fruit of it in a great harvest of lost souls. Revival is when the people of God are made alive again. The church, for the most part, has been sleeping. We are the sleeping giant, and it's time to awake!

There are two kinds of revival in the Bible: Personal revival and corporate revival. The Psalmist said, "Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You?" We need a personal revival when passion for the Lord is missing from our lives, our families, and our churches. We need to get so hungry and passionate for the presence of the Lord that we say, "I don't care if I'm going to be the only one who's going to praise the Lord in the dance at church today, I am going to encounter his presence like King David, who danced before the Lord with all of His might."

The second kind of revival is corporate revival. The old prophet said, "O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years!" (Habakkuk 3:2). After we are restored to a passionate personal relationship with Jesus, we need to see the work of God revived in the church as well. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil such as sin and sickness, and where Jesus is manifested as King, the kingdom of darkness has to flee. Light is more powerful than darkness. When you walk into a room and turn on the light, you don't have to chase the darkness out. Once you flip on the switch, the darkness is gone. It's time for the church to arise and shine, for the light has come, and the glory of the Lord has

risen upon us. We need to get so filled up with the light and glory of God that the darkness around us flees.

There is a work of God that He wants to do in our generation, as He has in the past. Jesus told us to pray that His kingdom would come and that His will would be done on the Earth as it is in Heaven. There's no sickness in Heaven. There's no depression in Heaven. There's no lack in Heaven. Jesus told us to pray for God's will to be done on the Earth as it is in Heaven, so guess what God's will is on the Earth? He doesn't want there to be sin, sickness, depression or lack here on the Earth. He wants us to be rejoicing in the Lord always. I hope I'm stirring up your hunger today for MORE: more of the presence of the Lord, and what He wants to do in our midst.

The original Hebrew word translated revival is *chayah* and it means to sustain life, be restored to life or health; to cause to grow; or to restore. It's time for a revival, where we are restored to life and fruitfulness in the church. The Bible says that Jesus came to give us life, and that more abundantly (John 10:10), but too many Christians aren't experiencing that abundant life. We need to be made alive again, to be revived. If something is alive, it will be hungry, growing and produce fruit.

How's your fruit? Are you a 'juicy fruit' Christian? Do you remember that old jingle for juicy fruit gum? 'Juicy Fruit - it's gonna move ya, It's got a taste that gets right through ya.' Are you so full of the fruit of the Holy Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23) – that when you get squeezed, juicy fruit comes out? We need to be full of the Holy Spirit and bear His fruit in our lives. We need to be revived.

When the people of God can wake up in the morning and go through their whole day without even thinking once about Jesus, it's time for revival. When Christians can go through their whole day without praying or reading their Bible, and in fact it's been so long since they last read their Bible, they don't even know where it is, it's time for revival. When the people of God walk and talk and act just like the world, it's time for revival. When Christians are easily offended, and can stay mad and hang on to unforgiveness for months and years, it's time for revival. When the power of God is absent from our lives, and we aren't seeing people saved, delivered and healed, it's time for revival. When believers will prioritize their children's sports games and move heaven and earth to make sure they don't miss a game, but will

sleep in on Sunday morning and skip church just because they're tired, it's time for revival. So what is the verdict? We need a revival!

The people of God need to be revived. When we are revived, the first thing we think about when we wake up in the morning is Jesus. Our heart's cry will become that of Job's: "Oh, that I knew where I might find Him!" (Job 23:3). Our heart's cry will resonate with the Apostle Paul's: "[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly]." (Phil. 3:10, AMP). More than anything else in life, we want to know Jesus more. Then we know we've been revived.

"And now grace has been shown from the Lord our God, to leave us a remnant to escape...that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a measure of revival." (Ezra 9:8).

#### STORIES OF REVIVAL:

I enjoy reading about previous moves of God throughout the history of the church. Over and over again we see the same pattern repeating itself. A man or woman of God gets on-fire with a passion to know God intimately, and the people of God gather around that fire-starter and seek after the Lord again. The preacher John Wesley said, "I set myself on fire, and people come and watch me burn." We need to start a fire burning today, so that people around us can see the passion we have for the living, loving, wonderful Jesus that we know, and people will say, "I want to know Jesus, too." Do we have a story of what He's done in our lives? Not only has Jesus forgiven my sins, but He's healed my sicknesses, and provided for my financial needs.

Throughout the history of the church, there have been men and women of God who have said, "I want more of You, Lord." By the 1500's, the church had become so legalistic and religious that the people didn't have direct access to God anymore. The church of that day told people that if they wanted to know God, they had to go through the priest. People didn't even have their own Bibles in their homes so that they could learn about God for themselves. There was one Bible in the church, chained to the pulpit, written in a language that the common people could not read. In the midst of this dark time in the church, there was a man of God named Martin Luther who said, "This is not right. We're not doing things the way that God said we should do them in the Bible." We call this period of history the Protestant Reformation, but really it was a revival. It was through a

divine encounter that Martin Luther had with God through the Scriptures, as He read Romans 1:17, “The just shall live by faith,” that sparked that revival. There was a reviving of the truth of God that says we are saved by grace alone through faith in Christ alone. Martin Luther knew that if this reformation revival was going to continue, he needed to get the Word of God into the hands of the people.

Then there was another revival – the Great Awakening – that happened in the 1700’s in the United States through preachers like John Wesley, George Whitfield, and Jonathan Edwards. As these men started preaching the Gospel, whole communities and cities were transformed by the power of God as His Word was spoken. In the 1900’s, there was the Pentecostal revival with William Seymour at Azusa Street, as the Holy Spirit was poured out on the church anew and afresh.

#### EVAN ROBERTS AND THE WELSH REVIVAL OF 1904:

One of my favorite revival stories was the Welsh revival of 1904. There was a 26 year old intern named Evan Roberts who was in charge of the youth group. He had been praying for revival for eleven years. He said, “Lord, send revival!” You would have thought that after eleven years of praying for something and nothing happening that he would have given up and said, “I guess revival’s never going to happen here.” He said, “No, I believe God’s Word is true. We’re going to pray, and we’re not going to stop until we see a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit.” He felt God was going to pour out a mighty spirit of revival on Wales. He prayed, “Bend me, O Lord!” He was saying, “Make me flexible, Lord. Whatever you want to do, come and move, Lord.”

Evan Roberts went to his pastor and said, “Revival’s going to come to our nation.” The pastor said, “Sure, one of these days God’s going to send revival.” But Roberts said, “No, there’s something in my spirit that says that God is going to move, God wants to do something right now, and we need to get the church to pray for revival.”

The pastor said, “You can call forward anyone who wants to stay after church to pray and talk about revival.” After the service, only seventeen people stayed, mostly youth and young adults. I love young people, and their openness to the things of the Kingdom of God. When you preach God’s Word to the youth, and you tell them what God said they could do, they will go and do it. Older people in the church can get stuck in the rut and mentality that says, “We’ve never done it that way before.” We need to be open to what God wants to

do in our midst, even if it's something new. We want to experience the new things that God wants to do.

Evan Roberts and seventeen other people ended up at the altar, crying out to God until 2:00 am, saying, "Lord, send revival." That next week, 60 people came to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. In the next one and a half years, there was a revival that shook Wales, in which 1,000,000 people saved, all because a small group of believers started praying for revival. This revival changed the culture. The bars and liquor stores shut down, and the entire police force was dismissed because crime was all but nonexistent. There was a radical transformation of righteousness that took place in the society.

It was funny because as people got saved, work at the coal mines was brought to a near standstill. The mules that pulled the wagons were so used to hearing foul language from the workers that, after the men were saved and stopped swearing, the mules no longer recognized their voices or commands. The whole culture was changed.

These hungry believers would pray from 1-5 in the morning, and the prayer meetings grew to have two thousand people. If you want to gauge the spiritual hunger in a church, take a look at how many people attend the prayer meeting. Sometimes people will come to church on Sunday mornings to see their friends, or because they like the music or the preacher. People might attend home groups because they enjoy a good meal or the fellowship. But at the prayer meeting there are no frills. You're not coming for the food and you're not coming for the worship. You're coming for one reason alone – God. Hunger for God. When we see the people of God begin to make the prayer meeting a priority, you will know that revival is near. When the people of God seek Him with all of their hearts, and say, "I want more of You," you will know that revival is near.

#### AIMEE SEMPLE MCPHERSON: THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL:

Aimee Semple McPherson, the founder of the Foursquare Gospel Church, was a woman mightily used by God. She was a little Canadian farm-girl from Ingersoll, Ontario who felt the call of God upon her life as a teenager, and travelled around the world, telling people about Jesus. The Foursquare Gospel Church was birthed out of Holy Spirit empowered healing revival meetings. When she set up her base of operations in Los Angeles, people would come from all over the world to receive a healing touch from Jesus. The walls of the church were lined with the wheelchairs of people who had been healed. These are the roots of the Foursquare Church. We need to remember our roots.

I remember my own personal journey deeper into the supernatural things of God. I was a youth pastor at Bible Fellowship Church in Surrey, BC, and I got to a place where I was tired of the usual, and I prayed, “God, I’m sick of hearing about revival and the supernatural, and not seeing it.” Whenever you look at the life of Jesus in the Bible, you see Him preaching the Gospel, and healing the sick. Preaching and doing. When Jesus commissioned His disciples, He said, “And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.” (Matt. 10:7-8). Jesus said, “Preach the Gospel, and do the stuff.” Throughout the whole New Testament, the church preached the Gospel and did the stuff. I wondered why we weren’t seeing that anymore. Sure, we saw one person get healed here or there, but why weren’t we seeing more of that today?

I started seeking God and prayed, “Lord, I want to know you more. I want to encounter your person, your presence, and your power. If the Bible is true, and you are who this book says you are, then I want to experience it for myself.” I would seek God in prayer at my office at the church. I would lie down on the floor and cry out, “God, I want you to come down right now.” I would stay on the floor until the presence and power of the Holy Spirit would fill that office. I had friends who would hear that I was spending these extended periods of time praying, and seeing God’s Holy Spirit being poured out, and they would say, “We want to come and soak in God’s presence, too.” As they came into the presence of God in my office, they would start weeping as the anointing of God came upon them, and their hunger was stirred up for more of God.

As a youth pastor, I took our youth group on a journey deeper into the things of God. Our youth would gather for worship on a Wednesday night, and God would show up and literally everyone in the room would be on their faces, crying out to God. Young people would be coming forward, running to the altar and crying out, saying, “I need to be made right with God. I need to be saved!” These were youth who had been in church their whole lives, but they realized that they had never submitted their lives to the Lordship of Jesus. Young people’s lives were radically changed. My prayer remains, “Lord, send revival!”

Over the years, I’ve seen glimpses of revival, but I haven’t seen a full blown revival yet. I’ve heard the stories of what God is doing around the world, and for the most part, it’s in third world countries. Someone preaches the Word, the people believe it, and revival happens. Why? Because they have nothing there but God. Here in North America we have so many luxuries. We don’t need to know

Jesus as Healer, because we can go to the doctor. We don't need to know Jesus as Provider, because we can go to the bank and get a loan. We don't need to know Jesus as the Prince of Peace, because we can take drugs to calm us down. This is the world we live in today.

Many people in Canada don't realize their need for God. They're looking to all of these other sources to find their fulfillment instead of going to God. What would happen if we set aside all of these things that we go to for satisfaction and went to God alone? Let's fast from TV and computers and sports and other worldly pleasures, and cry out to God and say, "I want only you to satisfy me in my life. I want more of You, Lord. I'm not content with what I've experienced so far." Let's pray this simple but powerful little prayer: "More, Lord!"

Here is a story of what happened one time in the Bible when God poured out His Spirit in a worship service and they caught a glimpse of revival:

"When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the Lord, saying: For He is good, For His mercy endures forever." (2 Chronicles 7:1-3).

The fire fell after Solomon prayed. If we want to see revival fire fall, we must first seek God's face in prayer. When God begins to move in a service, the fire from God will fall. It most likely won't be a literal fire that you will be able to see with your natural eyes, but the fire of God will come into hearts just like it happened in Acts 2:4.

Jesus wants to baptize us with the Holy Spirit and fire (Matthew 3:16). When the fire of God falls, we are restored to a place of passion and zeal for more of God in our lives. When the fire falls, it consumes the offering and sacrifices. If we want to see revival fire fall, there has to be sacrifices. Not just a sacrifice of finances, but also of time, of energy, of gifts – whatever it takes to have more of God in our midst.

The next thing that happened in this story is the glory of the Lord filled the temple. There was so much of the presence and power of God manifested in that place that the priests could not even stand up to minister. They were flat out on their faces in the presence of God, because His glory was so strong and so heavy. How can we see revival fire fall like this in our midst?

## FOUR KEYS TO GETTING READY FOR REVIVAL:

“if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14).

In this passage of Scripture, God gives us four keys to getting ready for revival. If we will humble ourselves, and pray, and seek God’s face, and turn from our wicked ways, God has promised that He would hear from Heaven, forgive our sins, and send revival. This kind of a Heaven-sent revival will do much more than just impact the people in the church; it will also spill over into our communities, and our nation – the land. Before God will do what He has promised to do, there are four things that we must do first.

### 1. HUMILITY:

This first key is to humble ourselves, and admit our need for God. Too many people are too self-reliant. They haven’t humbled themselves and said, “God, I need you. I’m desperate for you.” It’s like the story I heard once of a young woman went to her pastor and said, “Pastor, I’m struggling with a sin, and I want your help. I come to church on Sunday and I can’t help thinking I’m the prettiest girl in the congregation. I know I shouldn’t think that, but I can’t help it. Please help me.” The pastor replied, “Mary, don’t worry about it. In your case it’s not a sin. It’s just a horrible mistake.” We need to humble ourselves. If we don’t, God will humble us. Humility simply means we acknowledge our need for God.

I was so thrilled a couple of years ago when our elementary school in Beausejour reinstated praying the Lord’s Prayer. Every morning, the children in our Early Years School are humbling themselves and acknowledging that they need the Lord. I believe in the power of prayer. When you get hundreds students who are praying every day in our community, saying, “God, we want your Kingdom to come, and we want your will to be done,” don’t tell me that’s not going to make a difference. God is doing something in our community, but we need to humble ourselves, and say, “God, we need you. We’re not content with what we’ve got. This is good, but we want more.”

The pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle said, “God is attracted to weakness. He can’t resist those who humbly and honestly admit how desperately they need Him. Our weakness, in fact, makes room for His power.” (Jim Cymbala, *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*). God’s strength is made perfect in our weakness. There are so many examples in the Bible of insignificant people, like the little shepherd boy David who faced the

giant Goliath and defeated him, because he said, “I am weak, I am small, I am nothing. But with God on my side, all things are possible.”

## 2. PRAYER:

We need to pray big prayers. We need to pray in boldness and faith. The Bible says that, “God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.” (Ephesians 3:20). If we were to believe the truth of that Scripture, it would revolutionize our prayer lives. Jesus said, “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.” (Mark 11:24). If the church of Jesus Christ would begin to take Him at His Word, and believe that He is a prayer answering God, we would see revival. People don’t pray more than they do because they don’t really believe that God answers prayer.

One of my favorite revival preachers said this, “Faith’s supreme longing is for the return of the glory that has departed from the sanctuary... If we today could rediscover the virtue in that Name, the victory in that Name, the violence in that Name, we could set this world alight for God.” (Leonard Ravenhill, *Revival Praying*). It’s time for us to start taking God at His Word, believing the promise, and praying like we really believe that prayer changes things.

## 3. SEEK GOD’S FACE:

There is a big difference between saying your prayers, and seeking God’s face. Too many people have been seeking God’s hands, but not His face. They want the blessings of God – healing, peace, and prosperity – but they don’t want Him. It’s time to start seeking God’s face and not just His hands or His benefits. The Psalmist said, “O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory.” (Psalm 63:1-2).

Revival isn’t a formula; it’s about falling in love with Jesus again. A formula isn’t going to bring revival. Revival will happen when our heart’s cry is, “I want to know God more.” That’s revival, when we say, “Jesus, you’re my number one passion.”

“God chasers are after the fresh presence of the Almighty. Sometimes their pursuit raises the eyebrows of the existing church, but usually they lead the church from a place of dryness back into the place of His presence. It’s simply not enough to know about God. We have churches filled with people who can win Bible trivia contests but who don’t know Him.” (Tommy Tenney, *The God Chasers*). There’s more to being a Christian than just following a bunch of rules – it’s about

knowing Him. It's time to get hungry, and pursue the presence of the Almighty. Our community will change when we change first, and that will happen when we seek His face.

#### 4. REPENTANCE:

The fourth key to getting ready for revival is to turn from our wicked ways. If we want God to come and bring revival, we need to prepare our hearts first. If we compromise with sin, we won't be hungry for the presence of God, because it won't be comfortable for us. We prepare our hearts through repentance. Repentance precedes revival. Before Jesus came to the Earth for the first time 2,000 years ago, he sent a messenger to prepare the way.

"In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight.'" (Matthew 3:1-3). Before Jesus will come again in revival, we must repent.

The prophet Malachi said: "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the Lord of hosts. "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderer's soap." (Malachi 3:1-2).

God wants to revive the church. Before that happens, we must humble ourselves, and pray, and seek God's face, and turn from our wicked ways. Let's cry out to God together and say, "Lord, revive me, and revive your work in the midst of the years. Send revival!"