

EASTER REVIVAL HOUR OF PRAYER

This is a guide you can use during your time slot. It is a model, but feel free to use it or deviate from it as you feel led.

FIRST 10 MINUTES: Cross out the “I”

Helen Roseveare was a medical missionary to Zaire, who was part of an amazing revival in the Congo. She shared a story of a key prescription for revival. She had been on the mission field for four years, but the mission was hard and her attitude was worse. She was desperately overworked; the only doctor for half a million patients. She had become quick-tempered and impatient with everyone. Fortunately, her African pastor saw her spiritual need. One Friday he came to her village and told her to pack her bags; she was going to spend some time in his village. She packed, got on her bicycle and headed to his village. When she arrived, his wife had a room ready for her. Firmly, but courteously he said, "Just get in there and get yourself straight with God."

Helen shared, "Friday night, all day Saturday, Saturday night, all day Sunday, I spent before God. I got nowhere. The heavens were like brass, the Bible was dead, I couldn't get through to him. By Sunday night I was depressed and discouraged, with such a sense of failure; I was so hopeless. I went to the door of the house and into the courtyard. By the embers of the fire, sat my pastor and his wife. I sat beside them. After a long, painful silence, I said, 'Please, help me.' He leaned towards me and spoke patiently, 'Helen, do you know what's wrong with you? We can see so much Helen that we cannot see Jesus.'

He was silent for a while. And then, with his heel he drew a large capital "I" in the dirt. Then quietly and deliberately he said to Helen, "I think you know that person, don't you? "I" dominates your life. Me, my, mine, self, everything revolves around you - your program, your vision, what you want to do. "I" is in the middle of everything." He continued, "I notice you drink a lot of coffee, and every time they bring you a cup of coffee you stand with it in your hand waiting for it to cool. May I suggest to you that every time you stand waiting for your cup of coffee to cool, you just pray a short prayer. As he said the words of the prayer, he moved his foot across the dirt. "May I suggest you simply pray, "Please God, cross out the I."

Read the following scriptures...

*Luke 9:23: Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take **up** their **cross** daily and follow me.*

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

John 13:1-17 – Jesus washing the disciples' feet.

Now take some time in prayer to ask God to cross out the “I” in your life. What needs to be surrendered? Think of specific situations and offer them up to God. Ask him for humility...and a love for others that is greater than your love of self.

Notes for other prayer requests and what God puts on your heart:

SECOND 10 MINUTES: Draw a circle...

Gypsy Smith was born on the outskirts of London in 1860. He never received a formal education, yet he lectured at Harvard. He had no political aspirations, yet he was invited to the White House by two different presidents. He preached the gospel to millions. Everywhere he went, it seemed like revival followed closely. Once a group of revival seekers came to Gypsy at the end of one of his messages and asked him for the secret of revival. His answer was simple yet profound. He said, "Go home. Lock yourself in your room. Kneel down in the middle of the floor, and with a piece of chalk draw a circle around yourself. There, on your knees, pray fervently and brokenly that God would start a revival within that chalk circle. When revival comes inside the circle, it will start to come outside the circle."

Read the follow scriptures...

Colossians 3:1-17

Now take some time in prayer. Spend time in confession and repentance, personal and corporate. What's in your circle that needs to be revived? What is keeping you/us from a deeper love for God and our neighbors?

THIRD TEN MINUTES: Ask for a deeper experience of God's love...

Dwight Moody was a man whom God used to bring about revival in the late 1800's. He was the Billy Graham of his day. In the summer of 1871, two women of Dwight L. Moody's congregation felt an unusual burden to pray for him "that the Lord would give him the baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire." Moody would see them praying in the front row of his church and he was irritated. He didn't really think that he was lacking anything and certainly had more than they. But soon he gave in and in September, he began to pray with them every Friday afternoon. Why did he give in and pray with them? Because he felt that his ministry was nothing but words with little power. His Christian life was filled with hard work and little fruit.

On November 24, 1871, Moody's church building was destroyed in the great Chicago fire. He went to New York to seek financial help. Day and night he walked the streets desperate for the touch of God's power in his life. Then one day, in the city of New York, he had an experience of God that transformed his life and ministry. He writes,

"Oh, what a day! I cannot describe it. I seldom refer to it; it is almost too sacred an experience to name. I can only say that God revealed himself to me, and I had such an experience of his love that I had to ask him to stay his hand. I went to preaching again, and sermons were not different; yet hundreds were converted. I would not now be placed back where I was before that blessed experience if you should give me all the world, it would be small dust in the balance."

Read the following scriptures:

I John 4:7-21

Romans 8:31-39

Pray for God to pour out His love upon you, your family, your church family, your neighbors and all of central PA.

FOURTH TEN MINUTES: Find a few to watch and pray with...

RA Torrey's prescription for revival was...

First: Let a **few Christians** get thoroughly right with God. If this is not done, the rest will come to nothing.

Second: Let those **few Christians** bind themselves together to pray for revival until God opens the windows of heaven and comes down.

Third: Let those **few Christians** put themselves at the disposal of God for His use as He sees fit in winning others to Christ.

Read Isaiah 62. God said that He's placing multiple watchmen on the wall (they) not just one. It may not be everyone, but you are not alone in crying out to God this week. But in the days to come, who are your few?

Pray: If you don't have a few, ask God for a few who will bind together with you to cry out for a God to come, to cry out for revival.

LAST 20 MINUTES: Spend the rest of your time on these five easter revival requests.

- 1. Corporate, County-Wide, and Central PA Move of Prayer:** Ask God to give us a hunger for corporate prayer. Ask God for an increase of people gathering for prayer in groups and congregations all over central PA. Ask God to bring more intercessors and leaders to our Centre County prayer times every fourth Thursday at noon. Pray for a central PA move of praying 24/7 for the revival of the church and the awakening of our neighbors to Jesus. We desperately need a movement of prayer!
- 2. Our Neighbors:** Pray for your neighbors. Ask God to draw them to church on Easter weekend. Ask God for opportunities to share the gospel with them and for them to have receptive hearts. Pray that we would be known as people who love Jesus and love our neighbors! Pray that thousands would come to know Jesus in the coming years, because we are living proof of a loving God. Ask God to send workers (us) into the plentiful harvest (our neighbors, classmates, and the people we work with)
- 3. GenZ:** Plead for a move of God among the next generation, Millennials, GenZ, and the Alpha generation. Ask God to move in these generations like never before! Pray for favor for those reaching out to PSU students, including international students. Pray for our elementary, middle school and high school students. Pray for those who minister to our students. Pray for a Penn State revival. Pray for the schools in your area. Ask God to grab this generation and lead them to prayer, surrender, holiness, courage, humility, racial reconciliation, love, and generosity. Pray for specific next generation people you know.
- 4. Local Churches.** The churches involved in this Holy Week of Prayer are Christ Community Church, Unity, the Alliance, Fellowship Church, Access, New Hope, Faith Baptist, and Calvary. And there are many other congregations that God might put on your heart. Spend time praying for local churches, that God will amaze them by what happens on Resurrection Sunday!
- 5. A Revival.** Ask God to double the number of Christ-followers in central PA. Ask Him for a multiplication of baptisms and missionaries and new churches started. Ask Him to fill Beaver Stadium with people on a mission to impact the world for Jesus. Ask Him to bring a revival!