

## 21 Days of Prayer for Revival

During 2021, the QB Movement is focusing on the second of our six priorities: ***Faith-filled Prayer***. Here is how we have defined this priority:

In God's grace, through prayer, he offers us an important role in the spiritual battles on the front lines of God's growing kingdom. We build faith by listening to God, standing on his promises and celebrating his powerful work. We intentionally foster individual and corporate prayer throughout our Movement. We believe that God wants us to ask him for even greater things than what we have seen so far. (John 14:12-14)

The **goal** we have adopted as a measure of how we are going with *Faith-filled Prayer* over the next five years is:

- Every church praying for revival every week.

As part of our emphasis on *Faith-filled Prayer* during 2021, Queensland Baptists are encouraging all churches to participate in **21 Days of Prayer for Revival**. Our preferred period would be **Mon 31 May to Sun 20 Jun**, but churches could organise the 21 Days at any time during the year.

The **resources QB is offering churches** for the 21 Days of Prayer for Revival are:

- 3 sermon outlines on faith-filled prayer (or sermon videos if desired)
- 21 daily devotions on praying for personal, church and community revival (see below for an example of a devotion)
- 4 small group studies linked to the daily devotions
- Resources and ideas for families who would like to develop faith-filled prayer
- Regional prayer gatherings during the first week (1-5 June)
- A culminating State-wide Zoom prayer meeting on Sun 20 Jun

Churches may choose to use whichever resources are helpful for them. But we would **love every church to call their church family to commit to 21 Days of Prayer for Revival** sometime during the year (preferably May 31 to Jun 20 if it suits the church program).

**Introduction**

It looked like the rebellion of Adam and Eve had closed the door to deep human intimacy with God. Ejected from the Garden, people were forced to make their own way. Sure, God would still speak and guide, but it was more as a wise teacher than an intimate friend. But this was not the whole story. In the Old Testament, we find occasional characters who are incredibly close to God. Oh not everyone by any means. But these companions of God stand out. One of them was Moses. Ex. 33:11 says, "The Lord would speak with Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend." At one point, Moses asked God to "show me your glory" (Ex. 33:18). Well he got his wish and he was so full of this glory that all his followers could see it.

**Scripture: Exodus 34:29-35**

EX: 34:29 When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the LORD. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the LORD had given him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. <sup>34</sup> But whenever he entered the LORD's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup> they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the LORD.

**Devotion**

I wonder what Moses looked like after spending time with God. His appearance changed so much that people were afraid to come too close to him. But Moses' radiant face was merely a symbol of the beauty and power and holiness of God that rubbed off on him as he talked with God as his friend. He was transformed by the presence of God. Everything was different and his followers recognised it.

But inevitably the radiance faded. Moses set up a special tent where he would go to meet with God. But in between these intimate conversations, he found that God's presence slowly faded away in his life. That's why he wore a veil (2 Cor. 3:13). He didn't want people to see that he no longer reflected God's glory, that the radiance was evaporating.

There are two truths that are reflected in this narrative. The first is that the presence of God is both possible and transformative. If Moses could be a friend of God, so can we. Actually, we're children and heirs, which is even greater. As we spend time with our friend, it makes a huge difference in our lives. We live better. We believe better. We love better. We lead better. This is personal revival. God's presence and glory filling our lives. And it will show.

The second truth is that God's presence fades. The dirtiness of our world rubs off on us. The tendency to live independently increases. The attraction of sin grows. And so the glory of God in our lives dwindles. Fortunately, we don't need to head off to a tent to meet with God. But we do need to intentionally live in his presence or revival will wane.

**Prayer Response**

Lord, may I be a Moses who is so filled with your glory that other people notice you in my life. I really do want to be transformed by your presence so please give me strength to live close to your heart. Right now may your presence fill me as I talk with you my friend.

**Prayer for Revival**

There are many people in our community looking for hope and reality. They don't know it yet, but they're looking for you. Please unify your church and fill us with your presence so that our community may see you grace and goodness and power through us.