

NEWS FROM DAVID AND GRETA APRIL 2024

We hope that you will take a few minutes to read what has been happening in our ministry recently. The Perspectives section contains an appeal for all Christians to hear at this time.

At a recent **School of the Supernatural in Greymouth Elim Church**, we demonstrated how to minister healing. Having injured her right shoulder, a woman explained that she had constant pain and limited movement of her arm. After we placed our hands on her shoulder and commanded healing in Jesus' name, we asked her to test it out. She excitedly lifted her arm and swung it in every direction, reporting zero pain.

When we released the attendees to pray for one another, the woman prayed for a man who had injured his shoulder when a heavy log fell on it. For two and a half years, he had suffered pain and restricted movement. **As she prayed, they heard a 'pop' and he too was instantly healed.**

Some other highlights over February and March included:

- Visiting **Coromandel Elim Church**, where pastors Steve and Rosemary Garland are overseeing the building of a modern complex in Coromandel township that has even a number of locals excited.
- A return to **Renew Church, Whangarei**, where pastors Symon and Kristy Drake are seeing positive growth and have just brought the church (previously independent) into the New Life movement.
- Running a School of the Supernatural at **Elim Christian Centre, Nelson** and spending time with pastors Richard and Maria Batchelar and the leadership team.
- Visiting **Kaiwaka Revival Church**, led by young Maori prophet, Tawhiri Littlejohn who is speaking wisely into the indigenous issues affecting our nation. Their Man Up program has multiplied, reaching many men in the district. Though a smaller church, they average 26,000 online views for their Sunday service.



- Speaking at the **Elijah House national Easter Convention** at River of Life church in Lower Hutt. It was an honour to minister with general in the faith **John Dawson**. We have never heard someone speak so clearly and movingly on God's heart for nations and people groups as John.



April 6: Kaiwaka Revival Church, Northland. School of the Supernatural, 9-30am to 3pm.

April 7: Church Unlimited, Whangarei. Sunday morning service plus Sunday evening prophetic workshop.

April 13: Harvest Christian Church, Papakura. School of the Supernatural, 1pm to 5-30pm.

April 14: Harvest Christian Church, Papakura. Sunday services.

April 22 – July 11: Travelling in Europe.

July 14: Riverlife Church, Singapore. Sunday and leaders' meetings.

July 28: Church Unlimited, West Auckland. Sunday meetings.

PERSPECTIVES

Church Unlimited, our home church, recently hosted New Zealand and Beyond, a nationwide conference that champions unity, and prayer for spiritual awakening. In two keynote addresses, Pastor Tak Bhana issued an impassioned plea for revival in the church and a Bible revival. Here are some paraphrased highlights:

The greatest need in the world today is for the church to be revived. The planet is broken and needs a spiritual awakening. A revived church can bring one. There are keys to experiencing such an awakening:

1. **Awareness of need.** If we are simply content with church growth, we will not be desperate for society to be transformed.
2. **Hunger.** Our hunger level will determine our future. *"The secret of spiritual success is continual hunger."* ... Smith Wigglesworth.

3. **God turns up in humble places.** For example, the Pentecostal outpouring at Azusa St, Los Angeles in the early 1900's was in a building that had been used as a stable. It seems that Jesus doesn't mind turning up in stables! God loves humility and it attracts his presence.
4. **Pursue the power of God.** The apostle Paul said, *"My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power."* (1 Corinthians 2:4 NIV) The book of Acts is about ordinary people doing extraordinary things.
5. **Return to the place of prayer.** When we can pray as loud and long as we sing we will have revival. You can sing off borrowed fire but prayer requires your own fire. Get alone with no music team and no congregation, and you'll see how much fire you really have.

THE NEED FOR A BIBLE REVIVAL



The Bible is most powerful book on the planet. We are told to take the sword of Spirit, which is the spoken word of God in order to be overcomers. But you can't tell the devil, *'It is written'* unless you know what is written. The tragedy of our day is that the Bible is being minimised. Christians are becoming selective about what parts of it they believe, or are barely reading it at all. The bridge between information and transformation is obeying the truth. Instead of Facebook we need to get our faces in His book.

"Whatever keeps me from my Bible is my enemy, however harmless it may appear." ...A W Tozer

Smith Wigglesworth prophesied that there would be three great moves of God – a move of the Holy Spirit (fulfilled in the Pentecostal and Charismatic outpourings of the early and mid-1900's). A move of the Word (fulfilled in the teaching movement of the 1970-80's). After that, there would be a move of the Word and Spirit combined. We still await this move.

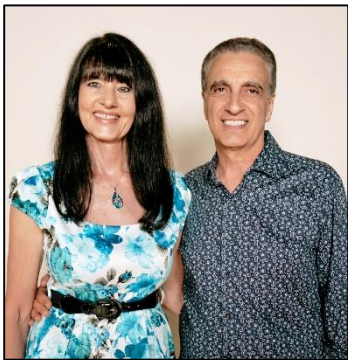
In history, nations that followed the Book have been blessed. Nations that lost the Book have not.

In England, the Wesleyan revival was fueled by the methodical study of scripture, adherents being labelled 'Methodists' because of this. That revival saved the nation from a French-style revolution and led to societal reformation in the decades that followed.

In New Zealand, it was when the Bible was printed in the Maori language in the early 1830's, that the gospel exploded. There had been decades of missionary work with moderate results, but the ten years between 1835 and 1845 saw revival. By 1845, there were 64,000 Maori out of an estimated population of 110,000 attending church. The Bible being placed directly in the hands of the people was significant in the history of this nation.

Charles Spurgeon once said, *"Society without scripture is in danger of self-destruction."* This is what we are seeing in the world today. Each generation can lose the Bible. **What one generation deems as optional, the next generation will deem as unnecessary.** May it not be us. WE NEED A BIBLE REVIVAL.

Blessings,



David and Greta

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