

# CHIEF MINISTRIES

November 2013

Greetings in Christ Jesus,

Wow! What an incredible past month! We've been blessed to have the Reconciler's Ministry come in for a weekend, followed by a Kairos weekend followed by three days of a unit wide revival with services being held at the trustee camp, in the newly renovated medium custody Chapel and in the gym turn Chapel. All of those services were held simultaneously. Over 2100 men attended and there were around 140 first-time salvations and countless re-dedications as God moved amongst the men right where they sat, dealing with their hearts. Forty-three want to be baptized, and we just baptized 36 a couple of months ago. Truly God is moving! And do you know that all of this has happened and we are without an official chaplain? Granted, we've had some wonderful volunteer help facilitate these happenings, but when God chooses to do something, he'll make sure it happens.

With the coordination of Carlos Ratliff, some wonderful ministries came to preach salvation, healing, deliverance and commissioning. A special thanks to Donald Wells and Touched by God ministries, Joe Purcell of the Woodlands United Methodist, Chester Jenkins and the Nelsons of Standing in Faith Ministries, Clarence Jones, and Larry Cook with In The Word Ministries, who all played a part in this tremendous move of God for the North Chapel. Paul Carlin and several ex-offenders and ministers took the Southside services and several others who ministered to the trustees. All of this really was a desire of our Warden Charles Bell, who was named Warden of the year this past year, who loves God and knows that only God can change the lives of prisoners. What a blessing to be a part of these services! But you know what? We're just getting started!

Revival is a condition of the heart. Either you're revived or you're still dead. Which one are you? Because revival starts with me and you, each one of us has to make the decision to let God into our lives and once He's lit the fire, we have to keep it stoked.

You know what else I like about God's presence showing up? It begins to reveal the true nature of man. Now, what should happen is that man sees himself for who he really is, and as the Holy Spirit points out sin - even in the believer's life - he'll repent and make it right and not continue in sin. Satan hates that. Unfortunately, that doesn't always happen and you'll find men getting de-masked by God. And that's ok too because then you know what you're dealing with. If God is using you in ministry, I can assure you there will be those alongside you that were positioned by man to be in a leadership position. Many a man has sought out his own promotion and will find himself in a place of "ministry". Let's remember God can use anything or anybody to carry out His purposes. But when God's Spirit moves in, then of course so does the enemy to try and keep men out of it. You'll see these people become blind to the Spirit or deaf as well. They have eyes, but they're not seeing. They have ears, but they're not hearing. Men who love God will be affected by His Spirit - you can't help but be. Men who are playing games will become agitated by it. We've seen a lot of this recently. Why? Because that's what God's presence does. It exposes. It brings to light what's really in the heart! Thank God!

I was sharing with a man just today how up until a few days ago, I had no problem buying sandwiches out of the kitchen. I boasted how I didn't have a problem with that, but if the Holy Spirit ever told me it was wrong, I wouldn't purchase any more. Well, I guess He heard me, because that's what happened. The Holy Spirit this past week dealt with me on that and revealed to me that I was a stumbling block to some that know me. So what do I do? I must be obedient to the Holy Spirit that told me - "Don't do that anymore." I could resist, fight, disobey, but why? I want to grow, and go forward. Now that's me. He may not tell you that, or He may be telling you the very same thing in your spirit right now. Or something else comes to mind that you need to stop doing. What is the Holy Spirit telling you right now?

And another thing regarding the Holy Spirit. If you pursue the Holy Spirit, He will let you catch Him. And there's such peace and comfort when you do, but there's also power. A teacher was talking the other day how in ministering to some seg-men, one was obviously demon- possessed as it was growling and cursing at him. He told of how when he heard that he said, "God bless you" over his shoulder as he high-tailed it out of there. Let me tell you something men - "You'll only get as much of God as you want." If you don't want to walk in the power and anointing of God that allows you to do what He said you could, don't worry, you won't.

Jesus told us in John 14:12, *"He that believes on me, the works that I do, will he do also, and greater works than those will he do; because I go unto my Father."*

It's clear that Jesus is referring to miracles, healings, signs and wonders and mighty acts of power. His works consisted of healing all manner of sickness and disease, casting out devils (not running from), raising the dead, cleansing lepers, and doing innumerable acts of deliverance from all the works of Satan.

The promise here is that each and every believer can be endued with power and receive the Spirit without measure. This is the *"rivers of living water"* that he talked about in John 7:37-39.

I didn't sign up to be some theological wimp or someone who doesn't believe what the Scripture plainly says. So I encourage you to pursue the Spirit of God even to overflowing, even to the gift of tongues. God is not a man that he should lie. If you asking for bread will He give you a stone?

Mark 16:17 says, *"And these signs shall follow them that believe, **In my name**, will they cast out devils, they will speak with new tongues"*. The source of our power is in the name of Jesus.

Signs follow them that believe, not them that doubt, disbelieve, constantly deny such possibility and use every excuse of unbelief to evade doing these things. This means what it says – literally - this doesn't mean you're not saved if you can't do these things or denies you other benefits from God, nor does it mean you're an unbeliever in salvation. It simply means you have attained the faith sufficient to appropriate these benefits promised.

So I encourage you to pursue the baptism of the Holy Spirit like never before. Don't be afraid of it, embrace it, ask God to give you the gift. *"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>v2</sup> You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. <sup>v3</sup> Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit. <sup>v4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>v5</sup> and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; <sup>v6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. <sup>v7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>v8</sup> For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>v9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>v10</sup> to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>v11</sup> All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills."* (1 Corinthians 12:1-11 ESV)

So my brothers and sisters, continue to realize there is more that God has for you. But you must pursue these things by asking God to give any or all of them to you. Ask and you shall receive!

Praying God's best for you all and that you too may see a personal and corporate revival.

## **Chief**

*If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part of this, please go to [www.chiefministries.com](http://www.chiefministries.com) and [www.chiefshouse.org](http://www.chiefshouse.org)*

**Christ's**

**Heart**

**In**

**Every**

**Felon**