



Why I Believe Praying on the Mountain Is a Significant Move of God

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I believe what God has begun through the Praying on the Mountain call to prayer and men like Fred Lunsford, Greg Mathis, David Horton, Don Wilton and many others is a significant work of God. I also believe that it merits the attention and response of all believers who have a burden for God to pour out His mercy and send revival and spiritual awakening across America and beyond.

Below are six reasons why I believe this to be true:

1. Great receptivity and rapid spreading.

As I have prayed for, studied, and served the Lord in the disciplines of revival and spiritual awakening academically, professionally and pragmatically for the last 32-plus years, I have never before seen as many pastors and people who are as receptive and eager to participate in a call to prayer for revival and spiritual awakening as I have with this call to prayer. Every time the story of Fred Lunsford and the call to prayer is shared, it seems that God has already prepared hearts to receive with joy the challenge to pray. People seem especially hungry and eager to get involved and to immediately spread the word. With over 270,000 believers committed to pray in just over a two-month period — and growing daily — God seems to be doing something that only He can do! In that regard, and in several other ways, this movement seems to have many similarities with the Layman's Prayer Revival that swept America from 1857-59.

2. An increase in earnest and passionate prayer.

There has been a marked and steady increase in earnest and passionate prayer among pastors and leaders for revival and spiritual awakening. This has increased even more since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis. I have noticed this increase personally with almost every prayer phone call or online prayer meeting I have participated in over the past few months. Many of the key figures of the Praying on the Mountain movement are also bearing witness to this taking place in their personal lives and as they pray with others.

3. Genuine brokenness over sin and a renewed desire for holiness, God's nearness and power.

Pastors, leaders, and laypeople alike are being convicted and broken over sin, the spiritual famine in America, and the great need for the Lord to have mercy through revival and spiritual awakening as they pray personally or with others. This is also happening as people have conversations, hear stories, and encounter testimonies related to Fred Lunsford and the Praying on the Mountain call to prayer. God is greatly using the story of Fred Lunsford's encounter as a 5-year-old boy with Uncle Doc, a Spirit-anointed mountain preacher, to grip the hearts of pastors and leaders about their personal need for revival and renewed power in the pulpit. The positive impact of this in churches and communities should be significant as pastors are renewed and empowered in their personal lives and as they preach with a fresh anointing of God's Spirit.



PRAYING

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4. Increase in the manifestation of God's holy presence as His people pray.

God seems to be drawing near to His people as they pray. Believers everywhere are bearing witness to a greater awareness of God's holy manifest presence, especially during prayer calls and prayer meetings over the last several months. Many people have also testified that this was very noticeable on May 5 as over 265,000 united in prayer for spiritual awakening in America. Personally, I experienced God's nearness on a prayer call May 5 with Greg Mathis and Milton Hollifield Jr. in such a way that I still do not have sufficient words to describe what took place. This is exciting because an increase in God's manifest presence is a hallmark of revival and spiritual awakenings biblically and historically. Oh God, continue to draw near through Your mercy!

5. God is raising up instruments, especially pastors.

God always uses people who humble themselves before Him as instruments for His work through revival and spiritual awakening. During the 1857-59 Layman's Prayer Revival, God used laypeople as major instruments for calling His people to pray. Riding on the waves of countless believers who have been seeking God for revival and spiritual awakening over the past 5-6 decades in America, God has now birthed a vision for united prayer through the Rev. Fred Lunsford, a 95-year-old retired pastor and servant of God from the mountains of North Carolina. Fred Lunsford's original burden and vision started with pastors. And now, as the movement grows, God continues to raise up and use pastors and leaders as His catalysts to fan the flames of a "revival of prayer" among believers and in churches all across North Carolina, America and beyond.

6. Greater expectation and hope in the Lord.

As more people unite and pray, expectations rise regarding what the Lord is doing through this movement or "revival of prayer." The comment, "God is up to something big" is being repeated by many who are involved in this movement. This is producing a renewed excitement and hope among God's people that He is indeed accomplishing something way beyond what could be imagined regarding revival, spiritual awakening and the mission. Thus, as God's people humble themselves before Him in prayer, seek His face and turn from their sin in genuine repentance, they begin to long, look for and expect the Lord to do what He promises in 2 Chronicles 7:14—hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal the spiritual famine in their land.

In Psalm 90:16, Moses prayed, "Let Your work appear to Your servants, and Your glory to their children" (NKJV). May we continue to respond to God's revelation and call to return to and seek Him in this generation, so that by His grace and mercy, the next generation may experience His glory and majesty through revival and spiritual awakening. To God be the glory!