

NOVEMBER 6, 2018

*The Land is in Need of*  
**REVIVAL**  
**- FAST FOCUS -**

CHRIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
EAST (8AM) | ESPLANADE MEMPHIS - 901 CORDOVA STATION - CORDOVA, TN 38018  
SOUTH (10AM) | MAIN CAMPUS - 480 S. PARKWAY EAST - MEMPHIS, TN 38106  
901.948.9786 | [WWW.CHRISTMBC.ORG](http://WWW.CHRISTMBC.ORG) | [CMBC@CHRISTMBC.ORG](mailto:CMBC@CHRISTMBC.ORG)

DR. GINA M. STEWART, SENIOR PASTOR

***“Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.” -Ephesians 5:14 (KJV)***

## **“A Call for the Redeemed to Wake Up”**

In the book of Ephesians, Apostle Paul was adamant concerning his efforts to bring harmony and unity among the people devoid the religious "do's and don'ts" imposed upon the new Christians. Paul, as the apostle to the Gentiles, particularly stressed the need for them to be strong and confident of their inclusion as Christians based on the liberty that Christ has freely given to all who accept Him as Lord and Savior.

At this point, the church was still in a stage of infancy and the new Christians were vulnerable to those who were offering opposing or different views about Christianity. Gentiles were led to believe unless they engaged in certain religious activities, owned certain material possessions, or attained a certain level of status in society, they were inferior to those who had reached such levels or those who were holding fast to the Mosaic laws. These actions were divisive in nature and created disharmony within the church.

Despite the change in methods, this divisive nature continues to exist among the people of today. These divisive methods are often camouflaged in a number of ways including: separation based along denominational lines, gender biases, racial inequalities, and, particularly during this season, differences in political views.

Over the past few weeks, we have been in a state of disbelief recalling the efforts made by individuals and groups to create divisiveness among the people. The tactics used have come in a variety of forms: fear, blatant untruths that create distrust of one another, and acts of hatred directed at one group by another. While some of the devices may have been overtly demonstrated, many were subtle yet they have been just as detrimental in creating chaos and havoc in the land.

As Paul told the Christians at Ephesus to “Wake up,” so are we being urged to open our eyes to the devices of the enemy in his effort to destroy our lives or to create an atmosphere of bondage. Christ has set us free, and we must be vigilant to hold fast to that freedom.

As followers of Christ and the persons spoken of in 2 Chronicles 7:14, we are called to “Wake Up”. We are called to pray for a revival in the land. We are to trust God to shine His light on us, in us, and through us that we may sound the alarm for others to “Wake Up!”

## **Plan of Action:**

1. **Wake Up:** Open ourselves to submit to God by fasting, praying, and listening to the call of God for our lives. Stay attentive to the Holy Spirit for guidance.
2. **Rise Up:** Commit ourselves to becoming involved in activities that are focused not only on us but also on what is for the good of others (i.e. community affairs, mentoring children, helping those who cannot help themselves, etc.).
3. **Stay Up:** Do not hit the “snooze button” to be sporadic in doing good. Be mindful not to slip into a state of spiritual lethargy, allowing the evilness that surrounds us to contaminate us or to cause us to become numb or insensitive to the conditions that plague others. Each day we are to serve as extensions of Jesus Christ, continuing to do good works. Let our words be consistent with the life that we live.

Remember: “Jesus is the Light that shines in us.” DO NOT HINDER OR HIDE THE LIGHT!

## **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, We thank you for creating us in your likeness and for your breath of life that awakened us as living souls. Lord, help us to remain awake to your call on our lives. Teach us how to rise above the ways of the world and how to sound your alarm for others to do the same. Remind us daily that just as you sent your Son as the light of the world to save the world, we who are saved have the responsibility as little lights to guide others to you. Let our words be consistent with the life that we live and that it is pleasing to you. We ask these things in Jesus Name. Amen.

## **Scripture References:**

Ephesians 5:8-16; Isaiah 60:1-3; Matthew 17:21; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Ephesians 5:3; 2 Timothy 2:24; 2 Corinthians 5:20; Galatians 5:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 3:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; 2 Timothy 16; 1 Peter 4:7

**Submitted by: Dr. Nadolyn Woody Dunigan**

**FAST FOCUS | We will fast on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 from 6am-5pm. We will abstain from all foods except water, juice, fruit and vegetables.**