

Revival Stories

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In the summer of 2018, New Life Church in Corpus Christi, Texas, began to experience an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that continues to this day. As the testimonies have increased both in volume and magnitude, “Revival Stories” serves to give you a window into what God is doing in the lives of His people.

UNEXPLAINED ILLNESS MIRACULOUSLY HEALED

Although Kate Collins had a relationship with the Lord since childhood, she struggled in her ability to lean on Him for all things. In mid-February, she began to experience intense sharp pain in her back along with her face swelling to the point she couldn't see. She rushed to the emergency room and was admitted to the hospital to find out what was happening. Test after test completed and the team of doctors still couldn't find the cause for her extreme symptoms. Several days passed as her condition worsened with her heart rate dropping to the thirties at times. At this point the hospital staff admitted Kate was dying and they simply didn't know why. She and her husband were instructed to make final preparations, as she struggled with the thoughts of leaving her family and if she said she loved them enough. She asked her husband to reach out to Pastor Mike and Bonnie Fehlauer for prayer. They arrived and as Bonnie entered the room and took her hand she immediately felt stronger and knew death was not coming for her. In the following days, as she got better, the doctors didn't understand how she could be recovering so quickly, chalking it up to a miracle. Through this near-death experience and divine healing she discovered what God's purpose was for her family and the role she was designed to fill in it. She learned to set aside the desire to be the head over everything and relinquish control to her husband and more importantly the Lord. It's in our weakest moments, as we leave our lives in His hands, that He builds us up again as He intends.



Undeniable healing. Kate Collins just before she went to the hospital (left) and right after she was discharged (right).

VIVEK'S HEALING & VISION OF JESUS LEADS TO BAPTISM

After meeting for coffee on the Texas A&M Corpus Christi Campus, Tarik Whitmore and Chiso Ajoku were about to leave when they ran into a college student named Vivek. Chiso suddenly felt an impression from the Holy Spirit to tell him that Jesus loves him. This led into a conversation about whether Vivek had a relationship with Jesus. Little did they know that another member from New Life, Elijah Blackington, was slowly introducing him to who Jesus is. After Vivek expressed his uncertainty, Tarik explained the Gospel and he decided to give his life to Christ. Then and there Vivek prayed for the first time in his life. They asked him if he would like to be baptized, but he felt he wasn't ready. The following Tuesday, Vivek agreed to join Chiso, Elijah, and some other friends at a Bible study. While praying together, Elijah felt the Holy Spirit tell him something was wrong with Vivek's neck. Although Vivek was surprised that they knew about his neck pain, he was shocked when they prayed over it and he experienced healing. During the prayer, Vivek had a vision of a man on a stained-glass window who had golden-brown hair, a golden-brown beard, and a white robe with a red sash. Being from Zambia, Vivek had never even seen a depiction of Jesus which further provided confirmation that the Holy Spirit was revealing Himself to him. After the prayer, they asked

again if Vivek wanted to be baptized. He went from hesitant about baptism just days before, to stating he had never been more ready for something in his life. Before baptizing him, Elijah and the group prayed that God would embrace him as a son and in that moment Vivek recounts feeling two warm hands on his head like a mothers embrace. Signing his name on the baptism wall he wrote, “Believe, not through seeing.”

MOVIE NIGHT LEADS TO SALVATION

During spring break of 2024, the youth ministry at New Life wanted to provide students with a positive hang out opportunity. They decided that they would gather on Wednesday for a streaming of the movie *Jesus Revolution*. Although this was a different day than when the youth ministry usually gathered, 174 teenagers came together in fellowship. At the end of the movie, they closed in prayer. A call was given for anyone who wanted to live lives like the ones depicted in the movie to come forward. Many of the students responded to the Lord at the altar and there were 6 salvations and 9 baptisms that evening. A couple days later, inspired by the movie, some teens went to the beach to share the Gospel, which resulted in the salvation of two more souls. Whether it's a movie or a couple of teenagers on the beach, God can use anything and anyone to bring His people back to Him.



Youth respond. New Life Youth students, 6th-12th grade, respond to a call to be used by God and be sent into the field.

HEALING THROUGH OBEDIENCE

For much of Moriah Derkach's life, she struggled with an unexplained scalp condition. It was somewhat manageable until around 2016 when even brushing her hair would cause the sores on her head to open and bleed. After trying over-the-counter medications, in July 2019 she went to see a doctor and learned she had an extremely rare scalp condition with no cure. There was however, a treatment to manage it, but it could not be taken during pregnancy. While she thought this would work for her season of life, she was unaware she was already expecting. A few weeks later she learned she was pregnant but also miscarrying. She attended a Heaven Come service, trusting in God and knowing he wasn't done with her. Pastor Mike began to preach on healing and the power found in the baptism waters. While praying, her scalp condition came to mind even though what she really wanted was for God to stop her miscarriage. During service, a friend came to her and urged her to be baptized. While she was hesitant, since she'd been baptized before, she obeyed and was baptized knowing that God would heal her. The next day, she went about life as normal till she felt her scalp and realized all her sores were completely gone. After having her husband confirm it was true, she decided to throw away her medication and walk in faith that God was the healer of her body. Though she had so much joy over her healing, she still faced the disappointment of her miscarriage. It was through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, she realized that in God healing her scalp and taking away her need for medication, she could now have children on her own timeline. Since her healing God has blessed her with two beautiful daughters. Although God doesn't always move in the way we expect or want, he knows exactly what we need.

THE POWER OF AN INVITATION

On a Sunday morning during the eleven o'clock service a high school girl from youth planned to get water baptized. With this meaning so much to her, she brought several of her friends from school to

come and see. After the service, Paige Carrete, one of the youth leaders, noticed several girls that the girl had invited at the altar talking with each other, emotional about what they had witnessed. While watching their friend get baptized, they began to experience the love of God. Paige, seeing that God was moving on them, offered to pray for them. After the prayer, she asked if any of them wanted to give their lives to God, and they all said yes. Since that day, they've all been coming to church and even more of their friends are getting saved. No matter from where it comes, a single invitation has the power to change somebody's life or even multiple lives, forever.

