

REPORT ON THE ST. CROIX PRAYER GATHERING, APRIL 23RD 2022

by Remco Brommet

Thank you so much for responding to our call to form a Canopy of Prayer over the strategic prayer gathering, held in Siren, WI, on Saturday, April 23rd, to launch a sustained prayer movement of spiritual awakening in the area. God answered prayer!

Preparation

In the weeks leading up, the Lord cautioned us to start small and do a lot of research. Diane Brask of Global Seed Planters, herself a 4th generation resident of the area, and her team did painstaking work to uncover spiritually pertinent aspects of history in the two-county area of Burnett, WI and Pine, MN. The gist of their history includes the following:

- a. The Mississippi River was originally named “The Holy Spirit River” by its discoverer, Hernando De Soto. The meaning of the St. Croix River is “Holy Cross.” We felt that both are symbolic of the land being consecrated to the Lord from its earliest discovery.
- b. The US Government of the colonial expansion era signed more than 70 treaties with the Ojibwe, the predominant Native American tribe in the area. All were broken. The Ojibwe were robbed of their best lands and sent to 7 reservations. The grudge against the White Man and their “religion” runs deep. Crime, alcoholism, sex-trafficking, and Indian spirituality run rampant.
- c. The area had significant spiritual foundations from its early settlers, primarily; Swedes, Norwegians and Germans in the 1800s. They started churches, hired circuit preachers for outreaches and evangelism, and formed one of the first missionary societies in WI.
- d. The latest moves of God from 1980-1995 included Nicky Cruz, Loren Cunningham, Peter Marshall, and Neil Anderson.
- e. Youth have always been important to God in what He has done here: No less than 5 Bible Camps for youth were started in this county. Teenagers started a youth ministry in their school which expanded across the St Croix to Pine City, MN. Hundreds of teenagers were saved at a Nicky Cruz rally, set free through Neil Anderson’s ministry, and challenged to bring the Good News of Jesus into the world by Loren Cunningham.
- f. Burnett County ranks among some of the highest in the country for presence of Satanism, witchcraft, and alcoholism. Spiritual oppression has been deep and has paralleled or followed moves of God in the region.

The last 25 years have been a time of deep spiritual dryness, division, and depression. But prophecies have emerged from as far back as 1948 that God would ignite a sustained revival in the area during the End Times. This powerful move of God will start at the headwaters of the St. Croix Valley, move southward, and go 100

miles East and 100 miles West of the River in towns and cities along the way. Thousands will be saved, and it will continue until Jesus returns.

A growing sense of anticipation among people who have prayed for this area for the last decade or two, along with a heightened thirst for a move of the Spirit and an end to the status quo, have paved the way for local leaders to call for this gathering.

I had the privilege of facilitating three Pastors Prayer Summits – 3-day gatherings of pastors in this area for nothing but prayer and worship – between 1993 and 1995. During the last one we found out that a group of Satanists from all over the US had gathered in nearby Pine City, MN to pray and invoke curses over us.

I was contacted earlier this year by Diane Brask to come back to the region and facilitate this prayer gathering. She was surprised that the Holy Spirit was nudging her to contact me because we had not had any communication for 27 years! As I prayed about it I heard the Holy Spirit say: “It is time for you to finish what you started.” Frankly I was as surprised as Diane.

Arrival

My wife and I drove across the bridge over the St. Croix River which separates Pine County, MN from Burnett County, WI on Friday afternoon April 22nd. As we reached the other side, my wife saw a dark figure ahead of us on the road. As we closed in on it, two phalanxes of what appeared to be angels rushed past our car towards it. The dark figure disappeared, and we drove on. I didn’t see it myself, but my wife did. I simply felt something change in the atmosphere.

Being very left brained and usually not much of a “senser,” something intangible has to smack me in the face before I sense it. And it did. There wasn’t the doom and gloom of Satanic strongholds that we were expecting driving into the area. There was rather the sense of battle taking place all around us. And driving on, I realized that God had answered our prayers to send the hosts of heaven to this place and come against the principalities and demons that had claimed it as their home.

The sense of anticipation of God being up to something significant was palpable – heightened by a flood of Intercessors For America prayer warriors that had contacted us to join in through a Canopy of Prayer over the entire Saturday prayer conference.

Many of you that responded are from nearby areas and wrote to let us know that you have been praying for years that a new beginning such as this would take place. We received more than 300 emails in response to the article IFA graciously let me write about this prayer initiative.

The True Identity Meeting

On Saturday morning, fifteen women’s ministry movers and shakers gathered to learn about True Identity, and why its message is a crucial aspect of God’s work in the area.

True Identity Ministries has developed 2 transformational teaching series that help believers confront Satan’s lies and deepen their awareness and understanding of who they are in Christ and who Christ is in them with Scriptural truths.

It seemed clear from the beginning that God intends this teaching to play an essential role in bringing spiritual awakening in the area and set people free from Satan’s lies, both inside and outside the church.

Foundations were laid to organize retreats and train trainers in both counties to lead as many as possible through transformational teaching.

The Prayer Conference

A few hours later, forty intercessors, including an Ojibwe pastor and two of her associates, gathered for strategic prayer, armed with a detailed spiritual history of the area, and a prayer agenda led by the Holy Spirit. They came from many different denominations, but they prayed and worshiped in one accord with a newfound shared passion to see God pierce the darkness and move in the St Croix Valley.

The presence of our Ojibwe sister and her associates was significant too. The grief and bitterness in the Ojibwe Nation about the past run deep. They hold anger against Government leaders, past and present because of atrocities committed against them. They have hurt and anger against missionaries, pastors and Christians who also committed atrocities against them and in the name of Christianity. These includes deception, broken treaties, reservations and Boarding schools when Ojibwe children were forcibly taken from their families to be westernized.

Learning more about this gave us the opportunity to acknowledge and grieve over the past, stand with our sisters and brother in prayer, and receive a blessing from them in the name of the Lord Jesus, under Whom we are one.

Worship Celebration

The prayer gathering culminated in a worship celebration to lift up the name of Jesus and crown Him King over the St. Croix Valley. Diane felt led of the Lord to buy a full-size sword, which was passed around, waved and held high as songs were sung and Scriptures were read. It served as a prophetic symbol in our gathering. This raised sword, actually named "The King's Sword," signaled a new beginning in the area – a new movement of prayer and spiritual warfare.

There was also a fresh anticipation of revival in fulfillment of all the rich spiritual history of the area including the 1948 prophecy. There was renewed hope that God is going to piece the darkness that has held this part of the nation in bondage for far too long!

Dan Adler, of Heart of the City Ministries in Minneapolis, who grew up in this area, led the worship while Dr. Emory Johnson, pastor of New Hope Lutheran Church, led us through a celebration of communion with the depth of understanding that comes from the Christology embedded in the Jewish Passover Celebration. Quite a few stated afterwards that this was one of the most anointed worship celebrations and communion observances they had ever been a part of.

The presence of the Lord was palpable. Outside, rain and lightning during a brief break in the otherwise cold and blustery weather, felt as if God was signaling, with weather phenomena His intentions to visit the area with the Latter Rain of Revival and mighty battle against the forces of evil.

Results

A couple of initial breakthroughs were achieved through this initial prayer and worship gathering:

- Remarkable cross denominational unity in prayer and thirst for revival in the land.
- Insight in the past that led us to pray with insight for the redigging of the wells of revival that once existed in the area.

- The beginning of the healing of the past through uniting in prayer with Ojibwe Christians.
- Piercing and rolling back the darkness that Satan has brought to the area by powerful prayer and warfare.
- Direction from the Holy Spirit from Isaiah 21:6-9 to appoint watchmen on the wall – a Leadership Team that listens to the Lord for direction in an ongoing and sustained movement of prayer.
- An outpouring of prayer from Texas to Hawaii for revival to start in the St. Croix Valley of WI and MN and move out over the land.
- Requests to launch similar prayer initiatives elsewhere.
- Prayer for spiritual awakening and revival among the youth of the region. A youth outreach event and rally were held in the area just a few days later. School Assemblies were held in the day followed by a youth rally in a local church in the evening which saw 25-30 teenagers come to Christ!

Moving Forward

A wise Norwegian revivalist by the name of Armin Gesswein used to say to me often: “Let it unfold, Remco, let it unfold. Most of the time God gives us His answers one step at a time.” That is the primary take-away from this strategic gathering. It was a beginning. A beachhead was established. Leaders and torchbearers emerged. Now we listen, obey, and continue praying until God’s plans and purposes for the St. Croix Valley and beyond have unfolded.

Local leaders in Burnett and Pine Counties have now begun the process of forming a leadership team and will be praying and listening for the next steps.

It is anticipated that more prayer gatherings will follow, with more people that God will raise up to be in attendance, until a movement begins to sweep out from there. One thing is for certain: we must listen carefully for God’s timing and direction, lest we run ahead, lag behind, or step outside His plans.

Continue In Prayer

If you feel stirred in your spirit to do so, please continue to cover the budding prayer movement in the St. Croix Valley with a Canopy of Prayer. Here are some points:

- Pray for God to confirm a leadership team to help grow and steer a movement of prayer.
- Pray for God’s protection against Satan’s harassment and revenge on all the participating intercessors, pastors, and their churches, as well as those who are chosen to lead the way forward.
- Pray for good intentions to turn into steadfastness, both in terms of ongoing prayer, and the introduction of True Identity in the area.
- Pray for ongoing and deepening unity.

- Pray for a spiritual awakening among the Ojibwe, and for God's empowerment of Pastor Deloris Mosay and her team.
- Pray for the Lord to raise up prayer leaders among the youth, who have always been instrumental in igniting past revivals in the area.
- Pray that the churches that are spiritually struggling will come alive with a desire for revival and an urge to unite in steadfast, ongoing prayer in the conviction that God has ordained to work mightily through the prayers of His people.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

John 1:5