

National Revival 2009

"Awake Thou That Sleepest"

Ephesians 5:14

Our National Revival was planned to span over two days from 12th – 13th April 2009 but God allowed revival to begin right in our Youth Convention held on 10th – 11th April 2009. We thank the Lord for four consecutive days of sweet revival that were flavoured with that good ol' days feeling!

We were honoured to have a mission team from the United States of America with us. The team was comprised of our General VLB Co-ordinator Sis Sharon Griffith, her husband Bro. Timothy and daughter Sis. Victoria together with Sis Jada Nowling, Sis Teresa Ard, Sis Marsha Brooks and her daughter Sis Sarah Brooks. They were truly a blessing to us and we are grateful that God made the way for them to visit us here in England.

Our revival began on Sunday 12th April 2009 at the Druids Heath Church, Maypole Centre, Birmingham. The evening was filled with rapturous singing and rejoicing. Sis Jada Nowling moderated the service and preached to us about the need for us to tear down any walls that satan helped us to build and to repair or re-build spiritual walls to help us resist him. We were encouraged that building spiritual walls should be the way of life for every Christian, as they will separate us from the attitude of the world. Sis Jada also taught us a lovely new chorus entitled "Change my Heart Oh God" which lead us into the altar call. Saints young and old flocked the altar and there followed a time of seeking, rejoicing in God and tarrying for the Holy Ghost, past benediction time.

The service on Monday 13th April 2009 was held at the Northfield Church, St Christopher's Church Centre, Birmingham. We were blessed to hear the testimonies of the mission team who had enjoyed their stay. The devil had tried to attack various members of the team with sickness but ultimately we had the victory as they testified of having been blessed by our brethren in England. We had a heartfelt invite from Sis Jada to come and visit her in the picturesque state of Alaska any time!

The evening was moderated by our National Overseer Bro. Philip Bennett and the night's speaker was Sis Marsha Brooks who preached from our theme verse and reminded us that we needed to awake to the condition of this day. She emphasised the need for holiness and the necessity of the Holy Ghost. She encouraged us to get rid of any stony hearts and

to acquire fleshly hearts that are malleable for God's use. She stated that we were in need of a shaking in the Church of God and that it was time for us to arise! The message was anointed and we thank the Lord for speaking to us. Brethren flocked the altar whilst the worship leaders sung to the glory of God.

There was truly a stirring in our people throughout the revival. Brethren sought the Lord with earnest and we felt the presence of the Lord. We pray that the effects of our revival will be enduring and that the revival spirit will continue in our local services as we continue seeking the Lord in these, the closing days of time.

Claudine Brown
National Reporter