

# Holy Spirit Uprising Hits Another Secular University

Unlike the revival at Asbury University in Kentucky this month, the Holy Spirit has been working on the campus of Texas A&M University Corpus Christi for quite some time now.

Students at TAMUCC—many of whom attend New Life Church in Corpus Christi, Texas—have shown their boldness for Christ for many months, leading to many salvations, baptisms and healings at the secular university.

Last Friday night, nearly a couple hundred people gathered for at TAMUCC to prayer for revival for not only their school, but also for America. The event lasted for five hours.

New Life Church Young Adults is a campus-approved club, and it is the largest Christian club on the campus of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, says Mike Fehlauer, the senior pastor at New Life Church.

“In light of what God did at Asbury and other Christian universities, it was wonderful to see this gathering of students who have such a heart for God,” Fehlauer says. “There was a strong spirit of repentance and desire for greater holiness.

“We believe that God is up to something on that campus. Each week, we are seeing salvations and baptisms from the 15 different student life groups that meet throughout the week. For me, to see these young people show a true heart of repentance is very inspiring.”

Last August, more than 600 Texas A&M-Corpus Christi students attended a one-night gathering on campus. Fehlauer says there were nearly 100 who received Christ and over 51 spontaneous baptisms.

But that's not all that's happening in South Texas these days. The Holy Spirit has overwhelmed students in many high schools in the Corpus Christi area as well. GenZers have been preaching and prophesying for months in the area's schools and bring about revival among the younger kids.

☒ The schools are allowing Bible clubs in the schools—before and after school and at lunchtime—where students are praying for each other and allowing the Holy Spirit to engulf the meetings.

“There has to be a spirit of repentance, and we're seeing that a lot among our youth,” says New Life Church Youth Pastor Mario Carrete. “It's amazing what's happening in our high schools, but it also incredible what's happening on our local college campus as well.

“Whereas you have a lot of young adults who have given into the secular culture and want to just have fun and party, well, this is a different kind of party. It's a party where everyone is invited, and everyone is invited to accept Jesus as their savior. We know that these gatherings—and our young adults' group—are making a difference in these kids' lives, and we thank God for it. We thank God that what is happening at Asbury and across the nation. These GenZers' zest for God is growing and growing. It's amazing.” {eoa}

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**Shawn A. Akers** is the online editor at *Charisma Media*.

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# Can We Really Trust the Bible?

On June 30, 2022, someone named Robert posted this comment on our ministry's YouTube channel: "Why would anyone in the 21st century give a [expletive] what illiterate desert dwellers from 2000 years ago thought about anything?" In writing this, he reflected the views of many people today, especially in the younger generation. Why on earth should I care about what this old, outmoded, outdated book has to say? What does it have to do with me?

Of course, the authors of the Bible were anything but "illiterate desert dwellers." To this day, scholars are still trying to understand all the nuances of the brilliant Hebrew of Job (let alone plumb the philosophical depths of the book), while theologians have written thousands of books and articles debating the meaning of single verses in the writings of Paul. But who cares about facts? It's convenient to bash the Bible and dismiss it out of hand. "I've got better things to do than read the Bible!"

I want to give you a fresh perspective on God's Word. I want to invite you to get reacquainted with the most wonderful book that has ever been written. Are you ready to come along?

In recent years, I've heard lots of people say, "You can't trust the Bibles you read. They are translations of translations of translations." Is there any truth to this? Absolutely not. Whether you're reading an older English Bible (like the King James Version) or a modern English Bible (like the NIV or ESV or NASB), you're reading a translation into English straight from biblical Hebrew, biblical Aramaic or biblical Greek. That's it.

You are not reading a translation from Hebrew into Greek into

Latin into German into English (or something like that). You are reading a translation straight from the biblical languages (namely, Hebrew and a little Aramaic for the Old Testament and Greek for the New Testament) into English. Everyone who knows anything about Bible translations knows this to be true, and the translators have spent decades studying the original languages and then many years producing their translations. So, let's bury that myth about "translations from translations" once and for all.

"But," you say, "I've heard of ancient translations of the Bible like the Septuagint, translating the Hebrew Old Testament into Greek, or the Vulgate, translating the whole Bible into Latin. And then scholars today use those versions, meaning, they use translations of translations. What about that?"

Well, you're right and you're wrong. It is true that such translations exist, dating as far back as 250 years before the time of Jesus. And it is true that scholars use them to see how ancient readers understood the original text. In other words, when a scholar is translating the Hebrew Scriptures into English today, he will see how the Septuagint translated those same verses more than 2,000 years ago, seeking to understand the Hebrew as best as possible. Why not use all the tools you have? But then—and this is the key point—that scholar will go directly from the original language into the target language, in this case, English.

"But hang on," you protest. "I understand what you're saying about these scholars going straight from the biblical languages into the modern language they're working with. But you keep talking about 'the original Hebrew' or the 'original Greek,' yet we don't have any original copies of the Bible. We only have copies of copies of copies. So that undermines your whole argument."

Actually, it's true that we only have copies of copies of

copies. It's the same with virtually all the major books from the ancient world. But we must remember that the people copying books and verses of the Bible did so with the utmost seriousness, believing these to be sacred texts, even the very Word of God. It's true, of course, that with so much interest in these texts, not every scribe was professionally trained or thoroughly meticulous. But there's good news here too, since we have so many thousands of manuscripts to compare, sorting out the least accurate from the most accurate.

The more you dig into this, the more amazing it becomes. That's why, when the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in the late 1940s, scholars were amazed to see that among the Hebrew manuscripts found there, some of them dating back to as early as 150-100 years BC, some were identical to the text found in our Hebrew Bibles today virtually letter for letter.

But this should not surprise us. After all, if you look at a Hebrew Bible today, which is based on manuscripts that are roughly 1,000 years old, you'll see a note like this at the end of the Torah (also known as the Pentateuch, referring to the first five books of the Bible). It lists the total number of verses in the Torah, then the middle verse. Then the total number of words in the Torah, then the middle word, then the total number of letters in the Torah—yes, letters.

This means that, upon finishing his work of copying out the Torah, the scribe would have to go back and count every verse, every word and every letter. (How many times do you have to count something like that before you're sure you counted correctly?) And what happens if your total deviates by one single letter? You cannot use the manuscript. It is considered defective. Talk about a painstaking job!

It is true that there are some verses in the Bible that we find troubling today, such as the command to drive out (or kill) the Canaanites, a subject I have addressed at length in other books. For the moment, let me just say that there are

explanations that make good sense—and I mean good moral sense. But here, I want to focus on another subject. What kind of morality does the Bible put forth? How does God call us to live?

Let's start with the Ten Commandments. If you've forgotten them or are not familiar with them, I'll print them here in full:

And God spoke all these words:

"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

"You shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name.

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but He rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long

in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

“You shall not murder.

“You shall not commit adultery.

“You shall not steal.

“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor” (Ex. 20:1–17).

Now, ask yourself this question. If the whole world lived by these words, would the world be a better place? A safer place? A healthier place? A more moral place? Would it be easier for you to raise your kids in an environment like this? Would there be less crime? Would marriages be stronger? Would people be more at peace with themselves and one another?

The answer is obviously yes—unless you think that more murder and more adultery and more theft and more lying and more dishonoring of parents and more covetousness and more workaholism and more worship of false gods would make the world a better place.

Yet it is these Ten Commandments which lay the moral foundation of the rest of the Old Testament. Perhaps the Bible has some divine wisdom after all. {eoa}

*(This is a small section of the chapter ‘Why Should We Care About What the Bible Says?’ from my new book “Why So Many Christians Have Left the Faith: Responding to the Deconstructionist Movement With Unshakable, Timeless Truth,” used here with permission from the publisher.)*

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*Dr. Michael Brown () is the host of the nationally syndicated Line of Fire radio program. His latest book is "The Political Seduction of the Church: How Millions of American Christians Have Confused Politics with the Gospel." Connect with him on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube.*

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## **'Jesus Revolution' Experiences Double Portion at Box Office**

Originally projected to bring in \$7 million during its opening weekend, the Erwin brothers latest film "Jesus Revolution" raked in more than twice that amount and became the third highest-grossing movie over the weekend as the nation continues to experience revival.

The Lionsgate movie "Jesus Revolution" brought in a total of \$15,525,000 in more than 2,400 theaters.

The movie's performance at the box office surprised many, but then a lot of people continue to underestimate God and the pockets of revival that continue to happen throughout the country. A headline from the Washington Examiner read, "Frasier Star Kelsey Grammer and Jesus Revolution Shock Box Office with No. 3 Open."

Troops and Allies, a Nashville-based marketing agency that is promoting "Jesus Revolution," said in a release:

"It's been an exciting weekend for Jesus Revolution. The audience response has been overwhelming. Lionsgate's 'Jesus Revolution' from Kingdom Story Company took in an estimated \$

million this weekend (including pre-release awareness screenings), significantly overperforming pre-release tracking. Before the weekend, estimates for the film showed the film opening in the \$6-7M range.

“With a 99% audience score on Rotten Tomatoes and an A+ CinemaScore, Lionsgate and Kingdom targeted the faith community, and the opening weekend audience at 2,475 North American theaters was 59% female and 89% 25+. The film is positioned solidly with faith-inspired moviegoers.”

To build excitement around the film, Lionsgate organized church screenings, university screenings and other initiatives that garnered enthusiasm for the film prior to its nationwide release.

The film also set a record this weekend: the release of “Jesus Revolution” marks the first time in history that a director (Jon Erwin) has scored four A+ CinemaScore Grades since the company publicly released the results in 1986. These films include:

- I Can Only Imagine
- American Underdog
- Jesus Revolution
- Woodlawn

Many viewers praised the film on the movie’s Facebook page:

- Kelsey Grammer did an outstanding job as did the rest of the cast. This movie is inspirational.
- We absolutely LOVED it! Let the revival begin!
- My family watched a movie on Saturday. The movie theater is full. We all clapped ! Thank you for the good work. I hope to the new wave of revival coming again.
- I’m so glad to see Kelsey Grammer’s Stand for Christ in the midst of Hollywood.

Along with Grammer, the film stars Kimberly Williams-Paisley and Anna Grace Barlow. “Jesus Revolution” is the true story of one young hippie’s (Laurie) quest in the 1970s for belonging and purpose that leads not only to peace, love, and rock and roll, but that sets into motion a new counterculture crusade, changing the course of his life.

Laurie is the founder and pastor of Harvest churches in California and Hawaii. He is an evangelist and a bestselling author. {eoa}

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## Proof That God Is on the Move in America

As the outpouring that began at Asbury University continues to spread, some of the signs may not involve massive worship services in an auditorium. There’s still plenty of proof that God is on the move, like outdoor prayer gatherings and baptisms at more colleges, even secular ones that don’t have regular chapel times.

Spontaneous worship, repentance and prayers continue at Texas A&M.

“2nd night! Jesus is JUST GETTING STARTED,” Grant Bynum wrote. “This is REAL. Worship, repentance, prayers, no leaders.

Physical healing. Baptism. Crowds bigger than last night. It's not religion. It's just meeting JESUS. Jesus! Had to leave a 1 am, but it was still going on! GO TO: Aggie Park 8:30 every night!"

### **Revival on the Campus of Indiana Wesleyan University**

Jim Lo, a professor in the School of Theology and Ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) in Marion, Indiana, wrote in a Facebook post that "God is doing a work at IWU" as well.


"I've been at IWU since 3am. As I sit in the chapel-auditorium, involved in reflective prayer, the words of Robert Coleman comes to mind. 'Anytime you see a revival, you can be sure it started with prayer'," Lo wrote.

"God is doing a work at IWU. It may not have the proportions of what is happening at Asbury, but students are responding to the touch of the Spirit," he noted.

"At 2am I received a text message from a student, sharing how she has surrendered her all to God and is feeling called to a 'special' type of ministry. Other students have shared how they have asked God to help them live holy lives and have taken the step of repenting," Lo continued.

### **'This Fire Is Real!'**

There have also been reports of revival at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA, and at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

 Paul Worcester, national collegiate director of the North American Mission Board for the Southern Baptist Convention, tweeted a photo from a gathering on the LSU campus Thursday night.

*Students at LSU gathering tonight to pray and ask God to move on their campus! I have heard of countless other campuses hosting similar events this week. This is not just hype. This*

*is real. God wants this generation back and they are turning back to Him heart and soul. ...*

*– Paul Worcester (@PaulWorcester) February 24, 2023*

“Students at LSU gathering tonight to pray and ask God to move on their campus! I have heard of countless other campuses hosting similar events this week. This is not just hype. This {fire} is real. God wants this generation back and they are turning back to Him heart and soul.”

*For the rest of this article, visit our content partners at .  
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## **Vineyard Pastor Resigns Amidst Son's Misconduct Allegations**

The senior pastor of The Vineyard Church in Duluth, Minnesota, Michael Gatlin, has resigned according to an email sent by The Special Committee of the Church Council.

Gatlin's resignation comes on the heels of an investigation into his son, Jackson Gatlin, who served as the church's young adult and online community pastor.

The Vineyard church posted an announcement regarding the matter to their website, stating that the Gatlin's knew of the

misconduct allegations and did not act on that knowledge. The church also revealed that police were involved with the investigation.

“His resignation comes in the context of allegations of misconduct against one of our former pastoral assistants and Michael’s son, Jackson Gatlin,” the statement read. “There are also allegations that Michael and Brenda Gatlin knew about this misconduct at the time and failed to act. This matter is being investigated by the police.”

In the letter drafted by The Special Committee of the Church Council, Gatlin was asked to meet specific criteria by providing information relevant to the investigation.

“Immediately prior to Michael’s resignation, we directed him to provide a statement to the Special Committee detailing his response and the actions he took, if any, to certain allegations of misconduct regarding Jackson Gatlin. We are Michael’s supervisor, yet he missed our deadline and never provided a statement. We had also advised him that his failure or refusal to provide information we had requested or to be interviewed by GRACE may result in the termination of his employment.”

In his resignation letter, Gatlin informed the council that he was unable to cooperate with their directives.

Addressing all potential victims in this heart-wrenching situation for the church, they made their stance of support for them known, loud and clear.

“Also, we want to again say to all survivors of abuse that we hear you and believe you. It is never your fault. And, you are not alone. We are praying for you and we call our community to a time of prayer and lament. As Jesus was always on the side of the vulnerable and the wounded, in our response to abuse the safety and care of survivors must always come first.”

While it still remains to be seen moving forward how the church acts in support of the victims, simply admitting to their existence and pledging to stand with them is a step in the right direction.

As reported by the Christian Post, “Myrissa Overfors, who claims she is one of Jackson Gatlin’s victims, said in a statement on Facebook that she was working with investigators and ‘other victims’ of his alleged misconduct.

“I am currently working with their investigators and I think this may be a long battle for me and his other victims. Send us all positive thoughts and prayers if you believe in the upcoming months. I’m sure we all will need it. If you have been a victim of this predator, you’re not alone.”

While Gatlin has resigned from his position and his future is uncertain pending the police investigation, The Vineyard Church is moving forward in obedience to the words of Paul in the New Testament. They are conducting themselves in an open, transparent manner reminiscent of the spirit in which James 5:16 is written: “Confess your faults to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man accomplishes much.”

This act of confession, and support for victims, pulls back the veil of secrecy and allows God’s healing light to shine on the situation. Victims can be healed, church members restored and the congregation may move forward grateful to the Lord for guiding them through such a perilous season. {eoa}

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**James Lasher** is Staff Writer for Charisma Media.

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