

# Revival Breaks Out

## Psalm 96:1-2

*Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD,  
all the earth. Sing to the LORD, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.*

Many years later as I served as a missionary in Brazil I traveled to Uruguay to preach a series of meetings in a large church on the border with Brazil. As I was about to stand up to preach God began tugging on my heart. I felt him whisper, "You gave your voice to me, now I want you to stand and sing a song." I was terrified. Here I was an American missionary speaking Portuguese to a Spanish speaking church and God wanted me to sing to them. I thought that was very odd and maybe it wasn't the Lord speaking at all, but as I pondered that inner voice the assurance came that it was indeed God speaking and I was to stand, not to preach but to sing a song.

But what do I sing? Immediately I was given the song in my heart. It was "*No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus.*" The words are, "*I would love to tell you what I think of Jesus, since I found in him a friend so strong and true.*" I stood to the microphone, not even knowing if I would start on the right note, opened my mouth and sang. It was beautiful, right on key.

As I sang I could see their eyes light up. They knew the song in Spanish and began to sing along. As we sang people started to weep and some came running to the altar. I don't remember that I even preached that night but a revival broke out in the midst of that church that was inexplicable, except God gave a monotone boy a gift beyond music, a gift of the Spirit that moves hearts toward God.

Other gifts of the Spirit would follow at different times in my life and ministry. Usually the gift would show up at unusual times and places when it was most needed and would surprise me. Now many years have gone by and I often hear people say, "Pastor Dick, you have been gifted by God in so many wonderful ways." When I hear that a smile comes to my face and a tear to my eye as I remember this was the boy who had no talent or gift. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!