

# Strike the Ground – Southampton Report

8<sup>th</sup> April 2026

In January Christians from across the city came together to unite in prayer as part of the Turn the Battle prayer initiative. This was followed in April by Strike the Ground, a 10-day prayer journey across nineteen locations throughout the British Isles: Oxford, London, Canterbury, Portsmouth, Southampton, Exeter, Bristol, Bath, Cardiff, Wolverhampton, Chester, Manchester, Lincoln, York, Lindisfarne, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Belfast, and Dublin. The Southampton prayer meeting in Elim Christian Centre was

Throughout the ten days we encountered sincere, humble, prayerful believers. We came away encouraged and yet deeply burdened to pray. While each place carried its own distinct atmosphere, history, and burden, a number of clear and repeated themes emerged across the journey.

## Southampton - Key Themes

- A culture of honour, humility, and hospitality Southampton is marked by a welcoming spirit, a place where God is readily received and where people are open to His presence.
- Attractiveness to heaven A strong sense that this is a city that draws the favour of God—a place where His Spirit is welcomed and can move freely.
- Readiness for revival - Beneath the surface, there is a sense of prepared ground —rich, fertile soil ready for significant spiritual growth and outpouring.
- A call to prayer and fasting A repeated emphasis on developing a deep appetite for prayer, with a renewed call to fasting as the means for what God wants to do.
- Focus on societal needs Key areas for prayer included: ◦ homelessness, mental health and depression ◦ young people, education and schools ◦ drugs and addiction ◦ cost of living pressures ◦ political realignment taking place locally
- Unity across cultures and cities Celebration of multinational unity, particularly the Polish community, and a call for cities (e.g., Portsmouth and Southampton) to stand together in friendship and revival. Prophetic Impressions
- A unique sound emerging - A distinct spiritual sound or voice is arising from Southampton that will carry influence beyond the city.
- A dormant volcano awakening - The city was seen like a volcano beneath the surface—quiet but active underneath. A coming eruption of revival that will reshape the landscape.
- Rich, fertile soil - The ground described as nutrient-rich, ready for growth, fruitfulness, and multiplication.
- A sewing machine - A picture of stitching above and below—indicating: ◦ unity being formed ◦ visible and hidden work happening simultaneously ◦ connection between people, places, and generations
- Preparation for growth (messiness of new life) - A call to make room for new births, even if it brings disruption or discomfort—revival will require flexibility and openness.

- Day and night worship and prayer - A strong sense of continuous worship and intercession—“night and day” prayer rising from the city.
- A city emerging from the ground - A picture of something new being built or revealed, rising up out of Southampton.
- A wartime mentality - A call for believers to adopt a focused, intentional, disciplined posture, recognising the seriousness of the hour.
- Reclaiming the airways - Linked to Southampton’s history with Spitfires, Battle for Britain : ◦ what was once used in the natural is now symbolic in the spiritual ◦ a call to reclaim spiritual authority in the “air” (atmosphere, influence, communication)
- The secret place and public reward - Emphasis on hidden prayer leading to visible fruit—what is done in secret will be revealed openly.
- A call to lead - A strong question sensed from the Lord: “Southampton, do you want to lead the way?”

### **Scriptures**

“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit. Acts 2:17–18

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, Ephesians 3:16-17

But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:6

Steve & Esther summary Feels like the ground has been ploughed and on the right track. But also that they must contend for the fullness through prayer and fasting to see the fullness.