



Pastor's Comments

In large print at:
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Dance Became Revival

Peter Cartwright, famed Methodist circuit-riding preacher of the early 1800's, was filled with holy boldness! He once was overtaken by nightfall in the Cumberland Mountains of Kentucky and stayed at an inn where a dance was being held. As the dance went on, he noted the condition of the revelers and **felt a powerful desire to preach to them** rising deep within him. Just then, a striking mountain beauty came up to him and asked him to dance. To the astonishment and delight of all, Cartwright stood, bowed to her, and taking her proffered hand, led her to the center of the floor. The fiddler tuned a string and raised his bow—but Cartwright held up his other hand. For years, he told them, he had never taken an important step without first asking the Lord's blessing on it. Now, he desired to ask God's blessing on the young woman and on all the rest, for the kindness that they had shown a stranger. And holding fast to her hand, **he dropped to his knees and began praying vehemently for the conversion of the entire group.**

Stunned silence followed, then pandemonium—some fled, **others wept**, and still **others fell to their knees!** The young woman tried to pull away, but Cartwright's grip on her hand was too strong, and she wound up joining him on her knees. Having finished his prayer, he arose and **began exhorting them to turn from their wicked ways and give their lives to the Lord**, and when he was finished, he burst into a hymn. The young woman, now prostrate on the floor, **began crying out to God for mercy**, and this so encouraged Cartwright that he redoubled his efforts and **prayed and exhorted and sang all night long.** Many were converted! **Revival broke out!** By the time he left, two days later, Cartwright had **organized a church, received thirty-two into membership, and appointed the innkeeper as leader!** Several young men converted at this "dance" became ministers. Do it again, Lord!

Northampton Assembly of God

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