

Rees Howells: Intercessor Study Guide

Rees Howells: Intercessor by Norman Grubb

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Contents

Rees Howells: Intercessor Study Guide.....	1
Contents.....	2
Plot Summary.....	4
Foreword.....	5
Early Years.....	6
Two Shocks.....	7
Meeting the Risen Lord.....	8
Welsh Revival.....	9
The Holy Spirit Takes Possession.....	10
Loving an Outcast.....	11
A Village Untouched by the Revival.....	12
The Tramps.....	13
Binding the Strong Man.....	14
A Branch in the Vine.....	15
The Tubercular Women.....	16
What is an Intercessor.....	17
Challenging Death.....	18
A Father to Orphans.....	19
Lord Radstock.....	20
Called to a Hidden Life.....	21
The Hatless Brigade.....	22
The Vow of the Nazarite.....	23
Uncle Dick's Healing.....	24
Called Out from Wage-earning.....	25
Madeira.....	26



Marriage and Missionary Call..... 27

Standing in the Queue..... 28

Revivals in Africa..... 29

Buying the First Estate in Wales..... 30

The Bible College of Wales..... 31

Buying the Second Estate..... 32

Third Estate and Children's Home..... 33

The Book of Common Prayer and King Edward VIII..... 34

The Every Creature Commission..... 35

Ethiopia..... 36

Visitation of the Spirit..... 37

Fourth Estate and the Jews..... 38

Intercession for Dunkirk..... 39

The Battle of Britain..... 40

Russia, North Africa, Italy, D-Day..... 41

Home Call..... 42

Characters..... 43

Objects/Places..... 47

Themes..... 49

Style..... 51

Quotes..... 53

Topics for Discussion..... 55



Plot Summary

The biography of the life of Rees Howells covers his life beginning with his own salvation, to becoming the intercessor for one soul, to being an intercessor for the world. The biography shares the details of Rees Howells personal Pentecost and call to be an intercessor. It is an honest account of the struggles Rees has to accept the prayer burdens and will of God. Rees turns away from worldly expectations and lives a life worthy to have the Holy Spirit reside in his heart.

The story includes details of his family and the love he received from his parents, grandparents, siblings and later his wife Elizabeth. This love is what Rees desires to share with the world. Rees' testimony regarding salvation changes the lives of all who hear it. There are many accounts where Rees is asked not put his family any higher than the Lord. This often means doing things that brought pain and embarrassment to his family since the desires of the Lord are not the same as worldly customs. Eventually his family would understand, especially after God's plan and blessings were revealed. One of the hardest sacrifices Rees made in putting the Lord's plan before his family is when his only son goes to live with his Uncle and Aunt while Rees and Elizabeth go into the mission. The choice is painful, but the rewards great. Moreover, not just for those who reaped the benefits of the mission, but their son Samuel found salvation as a young child and went on to follow in his father's footsteps as Director of the Bible College.

Rees must learn to accept the Lord often requires Rees to walk away from dreams only to find more blessings when God's will is followed. The details of the struggle to turn away from mission work and live in hiding one of the pivotal plan changes that God asks of Rees. Rees faces the possibility of his own death and other he lifts up in prayer. In the end, every obstacle and struggle becomes an integral part of the journey. The establishment of the Bible College is one such plan change that becomes one of the greatest blessings in Rees Howells life. Rees wanted to go back into the mission field but God wanted him to take lead for the start of the College. Little do they know at the time, but the Bible College under the direction of Rees Howells would be the prayer center for intercessions during World War II. Again, God's plan, no matter how difficult, offers so many blessings.

The journey the biography takes with Rees Howells is one of spiritual growth, faith and prayer. The story focuses not only on the sacrifice, but also on the blessings that were received because of the sacrifices and prayer. Everyone could benefit from Rees Howells, young or old, sick or healthy, wealthy or poor. From one soul, to the whole world, Rees Howells is the intercessor for all creatures.

Foreword

Foreword Summary and Analysis

The family of Mr. Rees Howells offered the author the opportunity of leading the team of writers that would produce the biography. The author shares how the collaborative effort produced a biography that is a thorough account of Howells' life, and provides an opportunity for those who read it to meet God in the same way the author met God throughout the writing process.

The foreword written by the author provides insight into the relationship between the author and Howells. From the foreword, the reader can expect an accurate account of Howells' life, his relationship with God, and how he helped others strengthen their spiritual life.

Early Years

Early Years Summary and Analysis

Howells' early years begin with his birth into a family of eleven children in a small cottage in South Wales. The family faces making ends meet on the meager earnings Thomas Howells makes at the local iron works and coalmine. While money is not abundant, godliness and love are. The experience of love at such an early age is what makes an impression on Rees and provides the foundation for his life to come.

Rees learns to work hard at a young age in the local tin mill with his brothers. Rees also works at the shoe shop his father opens in the local village. In addition to a strong work ethic, Rees Howells demonstrates being of strong consciousness of God. A strong character trait influenced by his relationship with his Grandparents and the spiritual experience at their cottage. In addition to his family, Rees is influenced by the men in the Bible stories and leads a life influenced by God, focusing on what would please God rather than the world.

The foundation of love and godliness that Rees Howells experiences from birth is important to who he becomes and how he affects the lives of so many. His dedication to doing what would be pleasing to God, often times turning away from popular activities is an example that is relevant even today. Rees is so strong in his convictions that he is able to be faithful to his conscience and not be swayed by others he works with or by what is considered popular by the general public.



Two Shocks

Two Shocks Summary and Analysis

Rees moves to New Castle, Pennsylvania, where his cousin, Evan Lewis, previously emigrated. Although he changes countries, Rees does not change his lifestyle. The first of two shocks referred to in this chapter is when Evan asks Rees if he was "born again." Evan explains what it means, while on the outside Rees appears to be unconcerned since he considers himself a Christian, on the inside Rees is greatly affected. Evan continues the message by sharing the story of Evan's sister's conversion. Rees does not completely understand what Evan is trying to explain, and while Rees is deeply affected by Evan's message, Rees feels it is time to live in another city.

Later Rees reads a book by Professor Henry Drummond and the work of Herbert Spencer is referenced. What Rees reads brings many thoughts and questions to his mind. In addition, he is reminded of what his cousin Evan's message "Except a man be born again... he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." This forever changes Rees' religious outlook. He sees the gap between himself and God and he becomes concerned for his salvation.

Even when Rees moves to a different country, the kinds of choices he makes and his devotion to God do not change. His cousin Evan is a vessel for God to convey a message to Rees. It may surprise the reader to see a man described as so devout in his relationship with God be so resistant to his message. Nevertheless, it reminds the reader that Rees is only human and that God is faithful and persistent in getting His message to Rees.



Meeting the Risen Lord

Meeting the Risen Lord Summary and Analysis

Rees must face a fear like no other when he becomes afflicted with typhoid fever. While Rees fears death, Rees is determined to have a real relationship with Christ and devotes his life daily to this quest. Rees ultimately returns to his cousin Evan hoping to learn the way to eternal life. However, no matter what Evan says, the message is not clear to Rees. God sends Rees away to try and find another way for Rees to comprehend his message.

In Connellsville, Pennsylvania, Rees hears a converted Jew, Maurice Reuben, speak. Maurice shares his conversion story, where on the journey to salvation Maurice faces great pain and loss. Through all his trials, Maurice remains strong in spirit and lives the way of the Lord. The Lord reveals to Rees that Maurice is the proof he is waiting for and from that moment Rees changes forever.

Rees begins to see everyone and everything around him differently including a clear distinction between things of the world and things of the Lord. Rees wants to live his life for the Lord and not for money so when he is tempted with more money with a wage increase, Rees decides to return home.

While Rees still does not fully understand the significance of being born again, Rees understands it is time to seriously find the person he believes can help him find eternal life. Rees needs to establish a personal relationship with Christ but Rees cannot seem to find the person who can provide him with the answers his heart seems to require. When Maurice Reuben shares his testimony, the reader does not just learn how Rees' life for forever changed, but the reader also learns the details of Maurice's spiritual conversion.



Welsh Revival

Welsh Revival Summary and Analysis

Rees returns to Wales in 1904 where country churches are filling up with men and women experiencing the Holy Spirit. Rees, though himself a fairly new convert, hears the call to help pray and support others who find salvation at the revivals. Converts begin to backslide and Rees and other converts must remain faithful while they search for the power of service and answer the Lord's new call.

Rees has just become a convert himself and his journey takes Rees into the high point of the great Revivals. Rees answers the call to be an intercessor but the reader learns that while accepting Christ into your heart is life changing, it still holds challenges. The reader can sense the difficulty to know in your heart the path to salvation, but to face the challenge of how to share it with others.



The Holy Spirit Takes Possession

The Holy Spirit Takes Possession Summary and Analysis

Rees returns home and begins work in the coal mine where Rees witnesses a need for spiritual growth in his fellow workers. Rees is active in the Revival and finds himself part of the group spending its vacation at the Llandrindod Wells Convention in hopes of deeper spiritual growth. At the onset of the trip, it is revealed to Rees that by the end of the trip "he will be a new man." The truth is revealed and Rees gains an understanding of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a person, as is the Savior. However, the Holy Spirit must have a body to dwell within. If Rees is going to allow the Spirit in, Rees must first empty himself out. Rees struggles with what he must give up for days. The Holy Spirit asks a question, "Are you willing to be made willing?" Rees answers yes, and the Holy Spirit dwells within Rees and Rees becomes the "new man" who shares his powerful journey with others at the convention and begins his new life as a vessel for the Spirit.

The subtitle to this chapter could be "You will be a new man". The beginning of the chapter Rees learns he is but a child in the ways of salvation. However, by the end of his travels, he will be a new man. Rees is reminded that while he has been transformed, being born again is just the beginning. The struggles last for days but the outcome lasts a lifetime. The reader can feel the struggle but also feels the joy as Rees allows the Holy Spirit to make Rees willing when Rees does not have the ability on his own.

Loving an Outcast

Loving an Outcast Summary and Analysis

Rees learns not only the proper way to pray but also the power of prayer. The first recipient of blessings from Rees' new prayer life is Will Battery. While there is not much in common between them, Rees becomes Will's close friend. After Will disappears and then returns at Christmas, Rees guides the young man through a transformation that takes Will back to his mother.

Then the Holy Spirit leads Rees to pray for Jim Stakes. Jim needs money in order to be delivered from his life of sin. Rees gives from his personal finances and Jim and his wife both receive more than just money; they receive the gift of salvation and in turn open their home for prayer meetings.

After his conversion at Llandrindod, Rees shares his experience with his Uncle Dick. After three weeks, Uncle Dick surrenders to the Spirit and Rees and Uncle Dick will fill their days with prayer for guidance from Spirit.

This chapter is when the reader sees how the Holy Spirit dwelling inside Rees begins to reveal the work Rees is to do. Rees is called to love whom many would consider unlovable. No longer on the outside, Will and Jim each feel the Holy Spirit move them to continue what Rees has started. Loving each of them has opened the door for many to feel the love of the Spirit.

A Village Untouched by the Revival

A Village Untouched by the Revival Summary and Analysis

The Lord guides Rees to a village where no one has been saved. The Lord reveals to Rees that he is to have no more than the rest of the village and whatever they ask of Rees he is to give them. Rees gives all his money to those in the village who need it for various means of survival or to get them out of trouble. Every villager he helps becomes a convert and they start hosting and attending prayer meetings. The entire village is speaking about what Rees is doing for them. Rees continues to visit the village for 3 years never letting anything affect his goal of bringing the Holy Spirit to the village.

Bringing the Holy Spirit to such an unholy and unwelcoming place is a challenge for any preacher or servant of God. However, for Rees to be a servant of God, while also being an example of suffering shows Rees' dedication and faith in the Lord. Everything the villagers experience is so extraordinary they cannot help but be moved by the spirit Rees brings to town.

The Tramps

The Tramps Summary and Analysis

Rees overcomes temptations and challenges with newfound strength and establishes an even closer relationship with God who wants Rees to bring the Lord to the Tramps. Rees not only gives the Tramps money, food, and clothing but also helps them find jobs. In addition Rees lives at the level of the Tramps. At times, it seems the pot of money would not be enough, but God always provides the exact amount of money Rees needs to care for the Tramps. The Lord asks Rees to stand up to his own family when they challenge Rees about bringing tramps into their home. Again, the Lord's wisdom is spoken, but this time it is through Rees' father, but also the Lord has a plan because no other tramps come to the Howells once it is decided they are welcome.

It becomes obvious that Rees is a willing servant who rises to the challenges the Lord sets before him. By meeting people where they are, Rees is able to show them unconditional generosity like they have never experienced before and show them a new and better way to a life of salvation.



Binding the Strong Man

Binding the Strong Man Summary and Analysis

The Lord asks Rees to convert a ringleader of a group of drunkards. Rees has no personal relationship with the woman the Lord is asking Rees to convert as he usually has with his converts. Rees will need strength to win this soul, but once Rees accomplishes this, he can use it to help him win other souls as well.

During his abiding time, Rees sees the battles being fought and won by the Spirit. Weeks of abiding pass before Rees gets the sign from the Lord that it is time for the woman's conversion. She attends prayer meetings without any direct influence from Rees. In fact, Rees is guided by the Holy Spirit to not pray for this woman. Rees continues to praise the Lord for winning the woman's soul before he has the proof it is happening. On Christmas, in the midst of the noise of the celebration, the woman gets down on her knees and cries for mercy.

A local manager who is not accustomed to prayer invites Rees and some friends over. Over the course of a couple visits, the Lord reveals to Rees that he needs to abide until Thursday and then conversion would be their victory. On the way to the manager's house, Rees feels called to stop at another house. Rees turns back with one of his friends and approaches the house. Inside is a woman dying of tuberculosis and she believes they are an answer to her prayers, and soon accepts the Lord that evening. Rees and his friend arrive at the manager's house and share the story about the woman. The manager is so moved he gets on his knee and prays for mercy.

Rees learns a great deal about following God's plan and how even when we believe we know a better way, the Lord's way is perfect. Rees learns about abiding at the perfect time. Rees is able to use the skill of abiding to bring many to the Lord at the perfect time. Even when it looks like God is leading them off track, Rees can see the power of God's plan and the success in winning back souls.

A Branch in the Vine

A Branch in the Vine Summary and Analysis

Rees prays to the Lord and asks the spirit to enter him to bring the proper message to a prayer meeting. The Lord's response is for Rees to give up all claims to money and for Rees to spend not even one penny on anything but essentials. Rees gives up claim to his own money. Rees is tempted to spend a penny to send a New Year's card in response to one received with a gift of books from a friend. Rees struggles with how to respond without insulting his friend but still remaining faithful to the Lord's request. Finally, Rees sends a note of thank you note for the books and explains why he did not enclose a card. The friend is blessed by the explanation and sends Rees money just in time to meet a need.

Rees surrenders control of his money and its use to the Lord. In the end of the chapter, we learn that Rees is going to handle thousands of pounds of the Lord's money. Once again, we witness the Lord taking Rees into extreme situations and Rees continues to answer the call.



The Tubercular Women

The Tubercular Women Summary and Analysis

Rees begins a time of abiding for a converted woman in the village who is stricken with tuberculosis. Rees questions if he is really expected to enter into the sufferings and take the place of someone dying of tuberculosis. The woman seems to improve, and Rees and the villagers continue prayers and support for the woman and her family. Soon the Lord reveals to Rees that bringing tuberculosis to an end means early death.

The Lord offers Rees a chance to die in place of the woman. The Spirit comes to Rees and explains what being a martyr means. Once the woman learns that the prayers for her to be saved mean someone else may be afflicted in her place, she gets on her knees and requests that no prayers be answered to take another. God takes her home three months later. The Lord reveals to Rees that His plan in this instance is not failure for Rees but instead the Lord calling someone home.

It is difficult for Rees to see a new convert suffer and face death. However, the pain extends beyond when Rees begins his intercession and is asked if he is willing to take the place of the dying woman. If he is willing to die in her place, she will be spared. Rees struggles with the question and ultimately has no real answer. Nevertheless, God knows his heart. The woman even realizes that no other can or should take her place in death. It is God's plan for her death to have a purpose in the future life of the mission.

What is an Intercessor

What is an Intercessor Summary and Analysis

The three main characteristics of intercession not seen in prayer are identification, agony and authority. An intercessor identifies with whom they pray for as the example of Christ's identification with us. Christ's own agony is what lifts us up to a better life to have an opportunity for salvation. The intercessor gains a new position of grace through the acts of prayer.

While the reader learns of Rees' accomplishments and failures it is important to compare them to what is truly asked of an intercessor. Without the reader experiencing it personally, it might be easy to think of intercession as just extra special prayer. However, learning the true definition and seeing how the Christ is the Great Intercessor, allows the reader to place the proper perspective on the mission.



Challenging Death

Challenging Death Summary and Analysis

Rees learns that as intercessor he must bring an afflicted person back from certain death or take his place, not in death but in their life caring for those they left behind. Knowing how to best intercede is part of an intercessor's role. For an intercessor to successfully pray for an afflicted person, first they need to understand God's will.

Taking on death as an intercessor must be one of the most difficult challenges. This is exacerbated for Rees since the last time he interceded in the face of death the woman with tuberculosis died. Understanding God's will is what Rees must now do as he intercedes for women and men facing death.

A Father to Orphans

A Father to Orphans Summary and Analysis

Rees is called to be a father to the children whose mother died of tuberculosis because their father leaves them soon after the death of their mother. Relatives come forth who want to care for the children. Although Rees does not become the father to these particular children, Rees is now prepared to care for those children the Lord will place in his path in the future.

God readies each person for the role He desires him to take on to help bring God's will to fulfillment. For Rees, God changed his heart towards the care of fatherless children. The immediate need is fulfilled by others, but Rees is forever changed and forever made ready to love children like a father would.

Lord Radstock

Lord Radstock Summary and Analysis

When an intercessor prays for another, the intercessor must be willing to be the vessel God uses to bring forth the answer. Rees' willingness offers him the opportunity to bring his testimony to "people of rank" such as Lord Radstock who cannot accept his daughter's death. The testimony Rees shares includes the death of the tubercular woman who was the first fruit brought to the altar.

One will never know what God is going to ask him to do. While Rees came from very humble beginnings, God uses Rees to touch the lives of those with much higher rank. Rees has equally helped those of the lowest place in life and those in the higher ranks.



Called to a Hidden Life

Called to a Hidden Life Summary and Analysis

God even calls Rees to a greater prayer life showing Rees he should be in a state of prayer at all times. This means that he would be "hatless" throughout the day. It is the custom to wear a hat so this makes Rees stand out in public. God is working hard on Rees and the changes go beyond how often he prays. Rees' good friend and second in command at the mission is under spiritual attack believing he should go out and start a mission of his own. The Spirit guides Rees to counteract the attack by stepping down from the mission and turning it over to his dear friend. Rees is now called to be the intercessor to pray for the success of the mission and will no longer be seen.

Being a leader of a mission is hard work but very rewarding. Rees continues to respond to the Holy Spirit and dedicates his life to the prayer and success of the mission. It gets a little more difficult for Rees as the Spirit asks him to separate himself more and more from the public. Pulling away from the public life makes him vulnerable to the enemy.



The Hatless Brigade

The Hatless Brigade Summary and Analysis

Rees is invited by his good friend to visit in London. Rees is hesitant to go because of the issue of the hat, or rather lack of the hat. However, the absence of the hat becomes a teaching tool used by Rees. The friend comes to terms with some of his pride and he eventually asks for intercessions on behalf of his son who is in the Army.

Rees turns his hatless struggle into an opportunity to share testimony and offer spiritual growth to others. By staying strong in the path God has put before him, Rees is not only allowing the Spirit to enter his life, but helping others experience the Spirit as well.



The Vow of the Nazarite

The Vow of the Nazarite Summary and Analysis

The Lord changes how he wants Rees to abide. In addition to Rees fasting and being hatless, the Lord asks Rees to spend three hours each evening on his knees reading the Bible. The Lord adds another requirement that Rees live like the Nazarene in the Bible. Rees struggles with what his parents will think especially regarding not cutting his hair. The Lord points out to Rees that he should not put pleasing his parents before doing God's will. Rees takes the vow and lives his life as asked. Eventually people see through the questions and see God in the actions of Rees.

Each challenge plays a part in the Lord's plan for Rees. The request for Rees to live like a Nazarene seems very extreme, but the extremity of it is what helps Rees finally conquer worldly influence. Rees' unorthodox behavior once again brings the Spirit into the lives of others. Eventually those around Rees see past his looks and actions and see a Man of God.



Uncle Dick's Healing

Uncle Dick's Healing Summary and Analysis

When Rees is given the choice to continue the hidden ministry or return to a more public spiritual life, Rees chooses to continue in hiding. Rees also answers the Lord's call to extreme fasting for the intercession of widows in India. During this challenging but successful intercession for the widows, Rees also receives a message from the Lord for the healing of his Uncle Dick, who is now an invalid. This becomes a test of faith, believing in what has not yet come to pass when Uncle Dick's health gets worse before it gets better. The Spirit warns Rees and his Uncle that prayers can be a sign of doubt. The Lord promises his uncle will be healed on Whitsunday and indeed, he is healed.

For Rees and Uncle Dick to believe in the healing that is to come, they must have faith beyond and through the health decline that comes before the healing. Finally, they must remain faithful even when the Spirit asks Rees to walk away from his uncle's side until after the healing. Once the healing comes, the joy is even more abundant because of the sacrifice and faithfulness during the journey.



Called Out from Wage-earning

Called Out from Wage-earning Summary and Analysis

The Spirit soon calls Rees to rely completely on God for provide all Rees' needs by asking Rees to give up his job and earnings at the mine. The Lord requires Rees to not take any charity, to only take what the Lord provides for him. The Lord reminds Rees to not worry about where the money will come from until the end of the month when it is time to pay. Just as his father is sternly questioning Rees regarding money, a letter comes from a friend offering Rees a position in a mission.

Rees has already learned many lessons as a result of his sacrifices. This time, Rees' Father also learns a lesson as he witnesses first hand the outcome of Rees' faith the Lord would provide him earnings. Each step gives Rees the experience and tools he needs to become the true Intercessor the Lord is calling him to be.

Madeira

Madeira Summary and Analysis

Rees becomes the Intercessor for a young converted man named Joe Evans, stricken with tuberculosis. God reveals that He will heal once all the medical advice has been unsuccessful. Unfortunately, Joe and his Father do not have the money for Joe to travel to Madeira for healing. Once again, the Lord provides and Rees receives a gift of enough money for the trip. Rees learns the Lord's desire for Rees to travel with Joe. Joe does not improve over time. Rees continues his prayers and then the Lord reveals that in a month Joe will be healed. As people learn of the healing message, they are in disbelief. The day of the expected healing arrives and God asks Rees to send a cable back home announcing victory over the disease before the victory is seen. Rees sends the cable and the next day Joe is healed.

Joe and Rees must travel far from home in order to grow closer in their faith and relationship with God. Once again, Rees is asked to care for someone with tuberculosis. Nevertheless, Rees continues his faith journey. Rees must travel far both in distance and sacrifice. This far off place brings the lesson of sacrifice very close to Rees' heart.



Marriage and Missionary Call

Marriage and Missionary Call Summary and Analysis

Rees marries his childhood friend Elizabeth Hannah Jones who is also a convert. God call them away from the hidden life and back into the chapels. God calls Rees to an even deeper place into the ministry through study at a theological college in Carmarthan. Rees returns to the Llandrindod Convention and hears a call for prayers for a married couple to be missionaries in Africa. Rees and Elizabeth begin praying for the couple to be brought forth and surprisingly God tells them that they are the couple that will answer the call. God also calls them to be parents and they are blessed with a son they name Samuel. One of Rees' uncles comes forward and says he and his wife will take Samuel to stay with them while Rees and Elizabeth go to Africa.

For a married couple with a child to be willing to give up the child to live with other relatives in order to follow the missionary call, it takes faith and courage in the Lord. Rees and Elizabeth step out in faith and the outcome is a victory for the Lord. In addition to the work they do in Africa, Samuel grows up to accept Christ and dedicate his work life to the Lord.



Standing in the Queue

Standing in the Queue Summary and Analysis

Again, money is tight and they have faith the money will come in time for the African trip. Amazingly, Rees and Elizabeth actually set out for London without all the money they need for the entire trip. They make it to the first stop and must buy tickets for the rest of the trip but do not yet have money. God asks Rees what he would be doing if Rees actually had the money. Rees knows that if he truly believed the money is on its way then he should be acting as if he already has it, which means getting in line. A man who must leave the line gives Rees money and tells him to buy tickets. Rees and Elizabeth make it to their destination and the story of standing in the line becomes part of their testimony and preaching.

Rees and Elizabeth continue to be tested financially. The test is not just in waiting for the money it is in what you do while you wait. Stepping out in faith as if you have the money already must feel like a risk. The victory seems even sweeter when it is from a hard fought test.



Revivals in Africa

Revivals in Africa Summary and Analysis

Rees begins preaching in Rusitu about the Holy Spirit and Pentecost and people are forever changed. For two years, Rees and Elizabeth would go from station to station achieving victory and bringing the Holy Spirit down to the people. They return to Rusitu to help convert the married men who hesitate to convert so they may continue to receive financial gain from their un-saved customs. They are able to convert a few, but then when the country is hit with a flu epidemic, the tragedy becomes a catalyst for more conversions. Word gets out that the station is being spared from death by the flu and it is attributed to the white man's Lord.

The mission call to Africa for Rees and Elizabeth seems straightforward. However, there is more God desires Rees and Elizabeth to do in taking the Holy Spirit to all the stations. Rees Howell refers to the time there as the "Perfect Victory" and that the six years were the "happiest years of our lives". It shows that tough times and challenges are made perfect when they are offered up for the Lord or they are done in the name of the Lord.

Buying the First Estate in Wales

Buying the First Estate in Wales Summary and Analysis

Rees and Elizabeth return to Wales after six years in Africa. They travel all over the English-speaking world bringing the message of revival to the masses. After speaking at the Llandrindod Convention in 1922, Rees and Elizabeth are invited along with some others to a prayer service during which a minister offers a prayer for the establishment of a Bible College.

Through God's works and prayers, the Howells arrive at an estate called, Glyderwen. God tells them this is where they are to build the college. God's plan is put into motion through the Howells as they meet with the owner and overcome financial and business obstacles to successfully obtain the estate and open the College in 1924.

Rees and Elizabeth are asked by God to handle change very frequently. Each time it looks like the change will be difficult but the outcome in the end has always been beautiful. Rees and Elizabeth ask for more proof to make sure this is really the plan God desires for them. Through the questions, they receive answers and in the end, the change establishes the college that will bless others and help others pursue the call the Howells originally followed.



The Bible College of Wales

The Bible College of Wales Summary and Analysis

Initially, the college is a great success. However it comes under fire and must rise to be grounded in the strongest foundation. God sees and warns that there is trouble and God is not pleased with the worldliness that appears. Internal conflict among the staff occurs and God turns the evil into good but it takes time to re-establish the proper foundation. Five years after the College first opened, Rees gave an account of the state of the College, which again showed prosperity and growth, but this time "on a foundation that neither man nor devil could ever shake."

Success often comes with a price. For the Bible College, the price comes once it appears man's goals are overshadowing God's goals. The Lord is remarkable at repairing damage the devil causes. The College is not immune in fact wherever God's work is being done it a prime target for the devil's destructive attempts. .

Buying the Second Estate

Buying the Second Estate Summary and Analysis

God has been speaking to the Howells about the need for another piece of property to accommodate the growth of the College. When a prime estate, Derwen Fawr, in the best location becomes available, the Howells know this is the estate they should buy but they still ask for reassurance from God. The Howells believe if it is to be they will receive the money they need. Again, the financial and business obstacles are overcome and on the sixth anniversary of the College, the second estate is opened.

The Howells are asked over and over to believe money will come in order for God's plan to be realized. It would seem that with passing time the faith would become easier but each time they must remind themselves and others God will provide the money if it is to be. Each time, often just in time, God does indeed provide.

Third Estate and Children's Home

Third Estate and Children's Home Summary and Analysis

There is always great need at the college but the needs are always met. Just as a massive building project is completed, Rees reads about the needs of housing for missionaries' children whose parents are in the mission field. God guides Rees to be patient and faithful and they obtain the perfect estate for the home right next to Derwen Fawr. The children's home along with the additional buildings provide for students and families to come to the College and be blessed, often finding salvation.

Rees struggled previously when he was called to start the college and leave his mission work behind. However, with God's plan Rees continues to serve the mission field by taking care of the children. The College has also become a new mission field, providing the opportunity for salvation for all those who visit.



The Book of Common Prayer and King Edward VIII

The Book of Common Prayer and King Edward VIII Summary and Analysis

During the early College development years, there are many new examples of answered prayer and intercession by Rees Howells. Rees is called into prayer when King Edward VIII is engaged to an American divorcee. The strong prayers offered by Rees and others at the College are answered with the abdication of the King. During this time, Rees is in contact with many people who ask for prayer and spiritual guidance. Rees is once again an Intercessor and source of spiritual and practical support for others.

The power of prayer is seen in so many examples in Rees Howell's life. Now Rees offers prayers that go beyond assisting individuals, but entire countries. God is using Rees as a willing servant to pray on the highest levels where strength in faith and spirit are a necessity.



The Every Creature Commission

The Every Creature Commission Summary and Analysis

Rees is deep in Bible study when the Lord asks Rees to bring the Gospel to "all creatures." God has been preparing Rees for the challenge of this scale and the college takes on the role of Intercessor for the nations by praying for the needs of all creatures everywhere.

God brings Rees through trials and tribulations to make him ready to take on extremely difficult intercessions for the sake of all people. The needs of the world are greater than what the Tramps, drunks and dying needed from Rees. Now Rees, together with the College, is placed in the role of intercessor to help avert war and bring peace and salvation to all in the world.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia Summary and Analysis

The College and Rees are again called to be intercessors on the international level when the crisis in Ethiopia occurs. They prayed for Ethiopia to be spared from being overtaken by Mussolini. Sadly, the intercession does not prevail but lessons are learned and seeds are planted for future intercessions and prayer. Rees is given the opportunity over time to meet the Emperor of Ethiopia. . In addition, many receive salvation through revivals in the country.

God always provides answers to the intercessions, just not always the answers expected or desired. In the case of Ethiopia, the first answer seems to be defeat when the Emperor is removed from the throne during Mussolini's control. In the end, God uses the trial to bring more spiritual strength to the country so they may be victorious in the future and stand strong if they are attacked again.

Visitation of the Spirit

Visitation of the Spirit Summary and Analysis

In 1937, the Spirit begins an even stronger presence as the entire College experiences a "Pentecost" much like the personal Pentecost Rees experienced in the early years. Each feels the true presence of the Spirit. Each person, though an individual with a unique role and purpose in the College, becomes part of the Body of Christ.

Strength is in numbers and when God brings together the individuals and makes them one together in the Spirit, great things will happen. As they all pray together and receive the spirit together, they become one with all the faith of the many.

Fourth Estate and the Jews

Fourth Estate and the Jews Summary and Analysis

Rees is called to establish a home for Jewish children forced out of Poland. Rees succeeds in acquiring the Penllergaer estate, but war breaks out in Britain and only twelve Jewish children arrive. While originally it was believed the prayer was to provide a home for many children, the development of the property in preparation for their arrival was the answered prayer. It provided work and security for many of the young men from the college and kept them from being called immediately to war.

How hard it is for Rees to step out in faith once again for an estate that is even more expensive. In this case, the original intent does not come to pass. However, for those who are faithful to the Spirit and believe in the power of prayer, their faith allows them to see the good that comes even when first impressions look unsuccessful.



Intercession for Dunkirk

Intercession for Dunkirk Summary and Analysis

Rees and the College are called to be intercessors not for one man or one goal, but for the safety and salvation of the entire world. The College stands strong in prayer against the devil in the form of Hitler. The call for evacuation of Dunkirk comes and the intercessory prayers appear to go unanswered. When the time for evacuation came, the waters are calm enough for small boats to make safe passage; the English Channel is safely evacuated; and the leadership of Mr. Churchill is strong, all these are answers to prayers.

When countries begin to fall under Hitler's power, it would be easy to concede. However, where armies can no longer fight, prayer can always remain. They are ready and willing to take on this Intercession even if the answer is not immediate and clear. They have the faith to continue until the victory is theirs.

The Battle of Britain

The Battle of Britain Summary and Analysis

During the war, the Intercessors are called to do battle in the prayer world while the soldiers fight the battle in the air, land and sea. The faithful, such as students and staff of the College, place themselves as intercessors between Britain and the enemy. After the end of the war many military personnel reveal how they could feel the support from outside the battles. They often would feel divine intervention that altered the outcome of events in a more positive result.

Having faith in the face of adversity and even possible death is a challenge. Preaching during the war and helping people see they must remain faithful while war is around them is a challenge. Faith claims the victory and remains in place until God's assurance comes and victory is certain.



Russia, North Africa, Italy, D-Day

Russia, North Africa, Italy, D-Day Summary and Analysis

Six years of prayer intercessions on behalf of Russia, North Africa, and Italy have links to events in the war where the enemy clearly could overtake a city but turned back for unknown reasons. The Intercessors see that it is not just a battle for a particular city or country, but in the bigger picture, the enemy must be stopped so as not to advance into the Bible Lands. Rees maintains the safety of the Bible Lands is what is necessary to accomplish the call to bring the gospel to all creatures. The establishment of the United Nations in 1945 is referred to by Rees as the answering of years of prayer for the reopening of the world to the Gospel.

Years of dedicated prayer come to full realization when the war ends and the United Nations forms. In the beginning of the journey, it is not obvious this would be the outcome. By faith, the intercessors proceed knowing only the immediate need they are praying. Not realizing until the end the big picture they have protected and supported along the way.

Home Call

Home Call Summary and Analysis

While the College prays for the missions, Rees still feels the burden of finance to ensure every creature can hear the gospel. In January 1950, Rees receives confirmation from the spirit that God promises the money for the Every Creature Commission. Rees returns to Llandrindod with several close friends. On February 13, 1950, Rees is called home to be with the Lord. While Rees' earthly journey ends, his mission continues through the college with his son as the new director

Even in the face of his final days, Rees remains faithful to the Spirit and acknowledges it is time for him to be called home. However, Rees' intercessions and faith do not end with his call home. The lives he touches are forever changed and in turn, they will change the lives of many others, perhaps until salvation comes to the entire world.



Characters

Rees Howells

The subject of the biography, Rees Howells was born on October 10, 1879 in a mining village in Wales. He started working in the tin mill and later would work in the mines. Rees was raised as a Christian, joining the chapel at the age of 13, but as a young adult, he realized he needed salvation. He had a personal Pentecost experience that changed his life and he became an Intercessor. Rees shared his testimony with others and began to preach in the missions. His acts of intercession helped people of various rank and in different cities. Rees is called to be Intercessor for tramps, outcasts, drunks and the gravely ill. However, Rees also provided intercession for family members and the upper class in London.

The Holy Spirit often asked Rees to make sacrifices in order to do God's work. Rees struggled with some of the requests, but in the end, Rees' dedication and faith allowed him to follow God's plan. Rees was able to believe in the answered prayers before the answer was revealed. Rees was able to walk away from worldly possessions and rely on the Lord to provide all that he needed, financially and spiritually.

Rees married Elizabeth Hannah Jones, whom he knew since he was a child. After their marriage, together they were called into the mission field of Africa where they held revivals and brought many more people to salvation. They had a son that they left in the care of his Aunt and Uncle. Together with Elizabeth, they led revivals in Africa like no one had ever seen before. Once they returned to the states after six years, Rees was prepared to take a short break and then along with Elizabeth they would travel the world bringing salvation to everyone they could. Instead, Rees was called to establish a Bible College. In addition to helping educate many others in preparation for ministry and the mission field, the College became a source of intercessions for national and international crisis. Rees led the intercessions to help protect countries under attack during World War II. After the war, Rees returned for a visit to where he had first experienced the Holy Spirit. Now an old man, he had completed all the work God had put before him. On February 13, 1950, after experiencing several heart attacks, Rees Howells went to be with the Lord.

Elizabeth Hannah Jones (Mrs. Rees Howells)

Elizabeth Hannah Jones was also from Brynamman. She and Rees were childhood friends. Elizabeth became born again during the Welsh Revivals. She became part of the ministry and intercessory work in the village along side Rees. Eventually she and Rees would marry and Elizabeth would dedicate her life to serving the Lord along side her husband. Elizabeth would make the same financial sacrifices as Rees was called to make by the Spirit. Elizabeth gave birth to a son, named Samuel, just before they received the call into the mission field. The Lord asked Elizabeth and Rees to put no



one before the Lord, not even their son. Therefore, the Howells would leave Samuel with relatives to answer the call to the mission field in Africa. Elizabeth remained a faithful wife and supporter of Rees while they led revivals in Africa for six years.

When they returned to Wales for a short vacation, Elizabeth and Rees both prepared to return to the mission field and were overjoyed at the prospect of bringing salvation to the world. Then God called Rees to establish a Bible College instead. Together with Rees, they climbed up Black Mountain where they prayed and dedicated their lives to the Bible College. Elizabeth supported her husband and joined him in prayer throughout the development of the college. Elizabeth prayed along side her husband and the rest of the college for intercessions during World War II. Always the supportive wife, Elizabeth was at Rees' bedside during the last few hours of his life and heard him speak some of his last words "Glorious Victory".

Samuel Howells

Samuel Howells is Rees and Elizabeth Howells' only son. The Lord told the Howells before he was born to name the boy Samuel. He was born around the time his parents heard the call of the Lord to be missionaries in Africa. This would be a great struggle and sacrifice for his parents to leave Samuel home while they went into the mission field. However, they believed it was the call of the Lord. Samuel went to live with Rees Howells Aunt and Uncle named Mr. and Mrs. Rees, who had been led by the Lord to offer him to stay with them. His name was changed to Samuel Rees and he continued to live with his adoptive parents and later graduated from Oxford. When Samuel was 12, he accepted Christ into his life and heard the call of the Lord to enter the ministry. He was Assistant Director of the Bible College and became Director after the death of his Father, Rees Howells, at that time his name became Samuel Rees Howells.

Thomas Howells

Thomas Howells was Rees Howells' Father. He and his wife Margaret had 3 daughters and 8 sons. Thomas was employed in the iron works and also the coal mines but later opened a shoe repair shop in the village. We never learn in the biography if Thomas gives his heart to the spirit. He appears to be Christian and supportive of Rees' work, but often questions the unusual actions the Spirit is leading Rees to take.

Margaret Howells

Thomas Howells was Rees Howells' Mother. She and her husband Thomas had 3 daughters and 8 sons. The love she gave her son made an impression on young Rees. Margaret would continue to cook and care for Rees while he lived at home even after he was filled with the Holy Spirit. Rees often shares what a struggle it was for his mother to accept some of the actions Rees is taking as requested by the Spirit.



Evan Lewis

Evan Lewis is Rees' cousin who lives and works in New Castle, Pennsylvania. Rees visits Evan when Rees was 22. Evan is the first person to ask Rees if he is "born again". Evan's question is the catalyst for Rees' conversion.

Professor Henry Drummond

Drummond is the author of the book, *Natural Law in the Spiritual World*, which is the book Rees is reading while living in Ohio. When Rees was reading Professor Drummond's book, many questions came over Rees. The book, together with what his cousin asked him, changed Rees' world and made Rees aware of the spiritual distance between Rees and God. They also gave Rees concern about where he would spend eternity.

Maurice Reuben

Maurice Reuben is a converted Jew who is speaking at meetings in Connellsville, Pennsylvania where Rees had recently moved. Maurice shared the testimony of how he grew up very wealthy but not fulfilled for he did not have the Spirit in his life. He shared how the Spirit came to dwell within his heart. As Maurice shared the story, Rees listened and saw the cross with the Savior. The Lord asked Rees if He may enter Rees like he had entered Maurice.

Rev. Evan Hopkins

Rev. Evan Hopkins was the first speaker at the Llandrindod Convention that Rees attends. He spoke on the life of the Spirit. Hopkins asks questions that make Rees think about who the Spirit is and what relationship does he have in Rees' life. During Hopkins' description of the Holy Spirit, Rees sees a vision of the Holy Spirit and realizes it is the Spirit that has been talking to him. After this, Rees experiences his personal Pentecost and is changed forever.

Will Battery

Will Battery is the outcast that received the first intercessory prayer from Rees. Will was in poor health, addicted to alcohol and homeless. Rees asked the Spirit to give Will Battery the gift of salvation for Christmas, but Will disappeared for ten days. On Christmas Eve, Will returned to the chapel and Rees and Will spent Christmas together. Will asked to come to the cottage meeting Christmas Day and that was the beginning of Will's salvation. Rees helped Will turn his life around helping him find a job, housing and clothes.



Jim Stakes (James Thomas)

Jim Stakes is the second person Rees is called to pray to salvation. Jim was very poor and known in the village to be a horrible drunk. Rees was called to give all he had to Jim as part of the intercession. When Rees gave Jim the money he needed to get out of trouble, the Holy Spirit came to dwell in Jim and he was changed forever. Shortly thereafter, Jim's wife would also be saved and together they began hosting prayer meetings in their home.

Uncle Dick

Uncle Dick is Rees' uncle and an invalid. He is a strong Christian but desired the salvation of the Spirit but was not sure how to get it. Rees visited his Uncle and over a few weeks his Uncle came to have the Spirit live within him. Years later when Uncle Dick was living in Pentwyn on Black Mountain, he would be close to death. Through the intercession of his nephew Rees, Dick learns he is to be restored and will walk to church, something he had not been able to do for years. The healing is not immediate, but a specific date is given by the Lord. Dick suffers for some time, and it looks like he will die. But on the exact date the Lord promised, Uncle Dick walked to church without even a walking stick.

Mr. John Gosset

Mr. John Gosset is Rees' friend from the Llandrindod Wells Convention. They corresponded a great deal. Mr. Gosset was quite wealthy and of a higher "rank" than Rees. He invited Rees to London often. Many times, the financial gifts that Rees needed from the Lord were given to him through Mr. Gosset.

Mr. and Mrs Rees

Mr and Mrs Rees are Rees Howells' Aunt and Uncle who lived in Garnant. Rees' Aunt is headmistress of the country school. Rees' Uncle visits Rees just before the Howell's are to leave for Africa. When Mr. Rees learns the Howell's cannot take their son Samuel with them to Africa, he offers for Samuel to live with them. Samuel becomes like a son to Mr. and Mrs. Rees, and his name is changed to Samuel Rees.



Objects/Places

Brynamman, South Wales

Brynamman, South Wales is where Rees is born and raised. It is also where he started his mission work.

Black Mountain

Black Mountain is within walking distance of Rees' family home. It is where his Grandparents lived and one of Rees' favorite places to pray. On top of Black Mountain is where Rees and Elizabeth dedicated their lives to building a bible college.

New Castle, Pennsylvania

New Castle, Pennsylvania is where Rees first went to live in America with his cousin Evan. It is where Rees' salvation begins.

Llandrindod Wells Convention

The Llandrindod Wells Convention is a convention in Wales for those who want a deeper spiritual life similar to the English Keswick Convention. It is while Rees is attending the Convention that the Holy Spirit enters Rees, and he becomes an Intercessor. Rees would later return to the Convention as a speaker.

Pentwyn

Pentwyn is Rees' grandparents home on Black Mountain and a favorite place for Rees to visit. Later it would be where his Uncle Dick lived when he was healed.

Rusitu Mission Station

Rusitu Mission Station is where the Howells were sent in Africa for their mission work. It was located in Gazaland near the Portuguese East Africa Border. At the mission station, Rees Howell began to preach about the Great Revivals that had taken place in Wales. Within weeks, those attending the meetings at the mission were being filled with the Holy Spirit.



Glynderwen

Glynderwen is the name of the estate near the Swansea Bay where they started the first Bible College.

Derwen Fawr

Derwen Fawr is the second estate purchased to accommodate the growth of the Bible College.

Sketty Isaf

Sketty Isaf is the third estate purchased to be a home for missionary children.

Penllergaer

Penllergaer is the fourth estate purchased to be a home for Jewish children but later became part of the College.

Every Creature Conference

The Every Creature Conference started in 1947. It is the result of a message that Rees received from the Holy Spirit to make sure the gospel is available to every creature on earth.



Themes

Salvation

The Theme of Salvation is strong in this book. The message is that being a Christian is not enough to guarantee eternity with the Lord. One must experience salvation. There are several testimonies shared with Rees on the topic of salvation. Then Rees himself experiences salvation. His experience is what brings him to become an Intercessor and then he makes it his mission to share the message of salvation, first in the village, then in the mission field, and then he wants to ensure everyone in the world hears the gospel and the message of salvation.

Every character in the book either experiences salvation or their life is touched by the result of someone's salvation. It brings life to the Spirit living inside those who are saved. Salvation is what ties all of the chapters together. There is not a single event described in the book that is not a result of someone's salvation. Salvation is such a dominant presence it can almost be seen as a main character that brings the Holy Spirit to life. Salvation is not easy and it is not always pretty and often looks as if it is something you would want to avoid. Throughout the book, the reader is introduced to many emotions and learns of many great sacrifices as part of Salvation. However, there also many stories that tell of the beauty and blessings brought from Salvation.

Without Salvation, there would not have been any story to tell. Rees Howell's salvation made him the man he was to become to do God's work. Salvation becomes the catalyst in the lives of people throughout the book who needed to get on a different path of life, God's path for them.

Intercessory Prayer

For many people the theme of prayer brings to mind a blessing before a meal or a child's bedtime prayer. For Rees Howell's prayer became a part of his life. In addition, the messages he received through prayer were life changing. Intercessory Prayer is the theme of Rees Howell's life and mission, beginning with intercession for one outcast soul, to the intercession for the safety of the entire world. Intercessory prayer is an example of faith, dedication, and sacrifice.

Throughout the biography the reader is told the recounts of how intercessory prayer by Rees Howell changed lives. However, it was also what changed him. That is what this type of prayer is about and that is the message the reader should take. It is more than a prayer over food or for a materialistic or minor request. It is a prayer that reaches deep into the soul of the intercessor and touches the soul of the receiver and thereafter they are both forever changed. In order to be an intercessor, God asked Rees to make sacrifices. With intercessory prayer, you are not asking for something for your self, you ask asking for something for others. Moreover, to know the need, you must first



understand the need, and to understand the intercessor must put themselves in the place of the other, often taking on the burden they are praying away.

Although not everyone is called to be an intercessor, the theme of intercessory prayer is applicable to everyone. Taking time to understand the needs of others, being willing to make sacrifices for others, and going without extras in order for someone to have the basics are principles any person can put into action. In addition, once someone's life is changed as a result, they feel called to do the same for someone else. That is how the world gets changed. One person at a time until the whole world is affected.

Faith

Faith is believing without seeing. The theme of faith is found throughout the book. It becomes an integral part of the Intercessions that take place. The Lord makes it clear that prayer alone or prayer with doubt is not enough. One must pray with faith that the prayer has already been answered even though it is not yet seen. In the cases where there is prayer for healing, it is very difficult to have faith in the promised healing when the very sick person still lies before you. The enemy loves to try and break the faith. During the time when faith is all there is and the answer has not yet come to be, the enemy comes in and makes the believer question whether God's promise will really come to pass.

Repeatedly in the story, it was demonstrated how even when there was a struggle to keep the faith, the promised answer always came. For the believer, each of these times helped to make their faith stronger and stronger. For Rees, the challenges to his faith made him so strong, he no longer needed the reminders from God to be faithful, it became like second nature to him. Faith goes hand in hand in the book with prayer. In every chapter where a character has been called to pray or be prayed over, there is also a call for faith.

The reader can learn from this story that it is not wealth, possessions, friends, rank, or worldly items that bring peace and change lives, a believer only needs faith to change his life and the world.

Style

Perspective

The book is primarily written in second person accounts. The author had the opportunity to meet Rees Howells and family members to hear the stories first hand. There are portions of the book presented in first person accounts by Rees Howells himself and on the occasion other people directly relaying events. There are also some third person accounts where testimonies were retold. The author also shares in the Foreword the names of people who provided details and information relayed in the book. The credentials of everyone involved prove the reliability of the information presented.

Most of the book is an account of the life events of Rees Howells. There are testimonies from the lives of other individuals but they are told in the context of how they affected Rees' life. It is written in past tense with the majority of writing being in story form with some dialogue. There are many excerpts included from meeting minutes and journal entries, but in all cases the sources are specified which helps validate the authenticity.

The book reads as a story unfolding beginning with the past and following a time line. There are a few places where events are shared out of the current time but it was for the benefit of clarification.

Tone

The main tone of the book is spiritual. Every story and event has a spiritual basis for being shared. This is an excellent way for the author to share the story of Rees Howell but to also provide an opportunity for the reader to have a spiritual conversion of their own.

There are wide ranges of emotions described. We witness pain, suffering, but also joy and redemption. The language and writing does an excellent job of conveying appropriate emotions for the events being described. This book conveys a message of life changing prayer and sacrifice. It is honest in the accounts that pain often come before the blessings, but vividly describes the beauty in the end that makes the reader realize the sacrifice is worth it for the desired outcome.

The reader can feel the respect the author has not only for Rees Howells but also for all the people referenced in the book. Each person and their story is treated with dignity and described in beautiful loving detail. The author also shows respect and belief in the subject matter. Even without reading the Foreword where the author shares how he met Mr. Rees, the reader can tell the author believes in the accounts of events and is a saved Christian himself.



Language and Meaning

Description

Structure

The book is comprised of 37 chapters and a Foreword also written by the author. Most of the chapters are between 5 and 10 pages in length. The longest chapter is 14 pages. The chapters may be short in length but not in activity. Every chapter has accounts of more than one event. In addition, details are provided for them all.

The title of each chapter is related to the major event or location of focus in that chapter. Most of the chapters do have overlapping themes and events, which at times can be tedious to read and possibly confusing. Sometimes it feels like the same story only with a different character or location. However, since it is a biography, the inclusion of similar multiple events were probably done to remain accurate and thorough and present a complete life story.

The pace of the novel is pretty fast. Many years and events are covered throughout the book. There are a few times when the pace slows a bit too much and too many details about too similar of events are shared. The climax of the book the reader expects from the back cover is how Rees Howells prayers affected the course of World War II. This does not come up until the last 60 pages of the book. There are also many location changes throughout the story. There are some assumptions the reader is familiar with the country and customs of Wales and the times period being discussed. All references to money and payment are in the Welsh denominations so for readers not familiar with that it can be distracting.

There are also many biblical references within the book. Some of them are references to stories, people, and locations, but there are also bible quotations provided with their respective chapter and verse.



Quotes

"Even the normal pleasures of the world had no attraction for him." Chapter 1 pg. 15

"Everything of this world was rough, but everything about HIM, so holy, pure and beautiful." Chapter 3 pg. 29

"I had never seen that He must live in bodies, as the Savior lived in His on earth." Chapter 5 pg. 39

"If you can't be willing, would you like Me to help you? Are you willing to be made willing?" Chapter 5 pg. 45

"guided praying with specific objectives, victorious travail, and definite answers." Chapter 6 pg 54

"If Rees Howells visits a home, you watch, someone will be converted there!" Chapter 7 pg. 58

"I want you to be a steward, and not an owner. Will you give up all claim on your money to Me?" Chapter 10 pg 78

"The sufferings of others became so painful to him that he was pleading for them as if for himself. That was intercession!" Chapter 12 pg 99

"But if at the beginning the world was affecting him, by the end it was he who was affecting the world, for people sensed the presence of God with him." Chapter 18 pg. 137

"The victory is that you come up through it." Chapter 19 pg 142

"The Lord will never give the witness unless we believe." Chapter 19 pg 147

"Those that preach the gospel should live the gospel." Chapter 20 pg 153

"God had taught him that He steps in when natural remedies have failed." Chapter 21 pg 155

"You must prove to Me that you love the souls of the Africans who are to live for eternity more than you love your own son." Chapter 22 pg 172

""I am dwelling in you," the Lord then said. "Can I be responsible for this through you?"" Chapter 30 pg 244

"by one Spirit into one body for one God-appointed purpose." Chapter 32 pg 262

"The world became our parish and we were led to be responsible to intercede for countries and nations." Chapter 34 pg 273

Topics for Discussion

There are several examples in the book where Rees was asked by the Lord to put God before his family. How do you feel about God asking this of Rees? Do you think Rees responded appropriately? If you were in Rees' shoes would you have responded the same way? Could you leave your child behind to be cared for by someone else even if God asked? Could you knowingly do something disrespectful or embarrassing to your parent even if God asked?

There are several times where Rees had to step out in faith financially. He had to believe the money would come even when it was in the final minutes before it was needed. Would this be harder or easier to do today with all the opportunities for credit? Do you think you would be able to live without income and make no attempt to acquire money and believe in faith the money will come in time?

Rees came into contact on several occasions with contagious sick people. God asked him to be with those people and care for them. He even traveled and remained in close quarters with them. Do you think you could put your health at risk for a stranger? for a friend? for a family member? Would you have done anything different from what Rees did?

Rees has several conversations with the Holy Spirit. At first, he believes it is God speaking, but then he realizes it is the Spirit. Do you think you would believe it if the Holy Spirit or God spoke to you? Do you think you would respond in the same way Rees did? Would you feel comfortable telling other people about it? Would you be able to make the same sacrifices for the Spirit that Rees did?

Rees and Elizabeth enjoyed being in the mission field. They were excited to continue that work around the world when God called them to establish the Bible College. Discuss how both seem to be doing God's work and how could you tell which He wanted you to do? Could you have let go of the dream you thought that God had given you?

Rees is called to help several strangers. Many of them were outcasts, tramps and drunks. If you were asked to help them would you? Do you think enough is being done today to help them? How much of a sacrifice would you make for them and would you only do it if God asked?

There were many examples given where the Bible College held intercessory prayer during World War II and affected the outcome of the battles. Do you believe prayer had anything to do with it or was it just coincidence? Do you think prayer like that today could change what is happening in the world? Would you be willing to pray like they did to end the war? Could you sit and pray with air raids going on or would you want to hide in fear?



Rees is asked by God to step down from leading the mission and turn it over to his friend and assistant. Would you be able to let go of something you had created and allow someone else to get the credit and recognition? Do you think you would have responded the same way Rees did? How do you think his friend felt when it was being turned over to him? If the mission was turned over to you, how would you have responded?