Healing Wounds Rooted in History:

How do we evangelize our city? Bless our area? What are the spiritual strongholds that resist and oppose this? How might they be removed?

How are spiritual strongholds established?
- God gave man dominion on earth (Gen. 1:26). Human choices have outworking.
- By choosing evil we give permission for spiritual darkness to enter. See the messages of the prophets of Israel.
- Unless permission is removed, spiritual strongholds can endure for generations (2 Cor. 10:4). (The story of Markus)
- Who can remove permissions given by our forefathers? Their descendants.
- The generations are connected. (Dan. 9) (The story of Dolny-Kubin, Slovakia)
- What power can break entrenched spiritual darkness? Christ's cross (1 Jn. 3:8b). (The story of the German nobility and WWI—*Alle Ehre König Jesus*)

Daniel 9—A case study

1 - **We do research** vv. 1-2. <u>History must be de-romanticized.</u>
- De-romanticizing history is a prophetic calling. The cross requires truth.
- This relates to corporate/national history and also personal history. (The story of German leaders visiting Auschwitz)

2 - **We pray** v. 3. Lord, how do you want me/us to respond?
- Response typically begins quietly among those who discern the need/call.
- Breaking spiritual strongholds is the Spirit's work; it will be spiritually opposed!

3 - **We confess our sins and the sins of our forefathers** vv. 5-15.
- Confession is merely speaking the truth. We NEVER dishonor our forefathers.
- Corporate history. (The story of the El-De Haus, Cologne)
- Personal history. (The story of my great-great grandfather, the state of Virginia and 250 years of slavery)

4 - **We ask God for forgiveness** vv. 16-19.
- Is there such a thing as "secular repentance"?
- Gemünd/Stolpersteine

5 - **We experience God's healing.** Reconciliation is a work of healing.
- What questions do we need to ask? What research needs to be done?