

Beginning the year in prayer for revival. 5th January to 25th January 2026

For the first three weeks of 2026, our prayer focus will be revival. Each of us is invited to meet with God personally, using the same daily material so that together we grow in expectancy for all that he will do in 2026 and beyond.

In Scripture, revival begins with repentance, which renews our confidence in God's mercy and leads to Spirit-empowered prayer for restoration. Each week we will pray through a different Psalm:

- Week 1: Personal Repentance – "Lord, revive me" (Psalm 51).
- Week 2: Revive Us – "Lord, revive us" (Psalm 85).
- Week 3: Restore Us – "Lord, restore your church" (Psalm 80).

You are encouraged to read the week's Psalm every day. For each day, a few verses from that Psalm will be highlighted as the focus for that day's prayer.

There is also a suggested hymn for each week:

- Week 1: Create In Me A Clean Heart – Keith Green
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFe4r3qe1x0>
- Week 2: Here Is Love, Vast as the Ocean
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HVnnQdBHzA>
- Week 3: In Christ Alone
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tto8mGXybXg>

Week 1 – Psalm 51: Personal Repentance

Psalm 51 is David's confession after his sin with Bathsheba, expressing his grief over sin, a plea for his cleansing, and a longing for a renewed heart. The Psalm shows us that true revival always begins with a broken and contrite heart before God.

5th Jan 2026 – The God of Mercy

Psalm 51:1–2

Focus: Coming to God because He is merciful, not because you are worthy.

- Where do you need God's mercy today?
- Pray: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love."
- Confess specific sins, trusting His compassion to "blot out" your transgressions.

6th Jan 2026 – Owing My Sin

Psalm 51:3–4

Focus: No excuses, no blaming others.

- Are there sins you minimise or justify?
- Pray for courage to say, "Against you, you only, have I sinned."
- Ask God to deepen your hatred of sin because it wounds His heart.

7th Jan 2026 – Sin's Depth

Psalm 51:5–6

Focus: Recognising that sin is not just actions but a fallen nature God must transform.

- Where do you see "hidden" attitudes that displease God?
- Invite God to build "truth in the inward being."
- Pray for integrity when no one else is watching.

8th Jan 2026 – Cleansed and Washed

Psalm 51:7

Focus: God's cleansing is thorough, like hyssop sprinkling and washing white as snow.

- Thank God for Christ's blood cleansing your conscience.
- Pray for a fresh assurance of forgiveness.
- Thank God that His cleansing is stronger than your deepest stain.

9th Jan 2026 – Joy Restored

Psalm 51:8–9

Focus: From bones crushed by conviction to joy restored by forgiveness.

- Have you lost spiritual joy because of unconfessed sin?
- Ask God to let you "hear joy and gladness" again.
- Thank Him that He hides His face from your sins, not from you.

10th Jan 2026 – Create in Me a Clean Heart

Psalm 51:10

Focus: Asking not just for pardon but for a new, clean heart and a steadfast spirit.

- In what areas are you spiritually unstable or double minded?
- Pray: "Create in me a clean heart, O God."
- Ask for a stable, faithful spirit when facing temptation.

11th Jan 2026 – Do Not Take Your Spirit

Psalm 51:11–12

Focus: Longing for God's presence and the joy of His salvation.

- Have you taken God's presence for granted?
- Pray for the "joy of your salvation" to be restored.
- Ask for a "willing spirit" that delights to obey.

Week 2 – Psalm 85: Revival and Renewal

Psalm 85 recalls God's past restoration and pleads for Him to "revive us again," looking forward to righteousness and peace filling the land. It moves from memory of mercy to confident hope that God can renew His people again.

12th Jan 2026 – Remembering Past Mercies

Psalm 85:1–3

Focus: Remembering how God has previously restored and forgiven.

Recall times God has answered prayer or restored you.

Thank Him for "showing favour to your land" and "forgiving iniquity."

Let gratitude stir within us a fresh faith for revival.

13th Jan 2026 – Restore Us Again

Psalm 85:4–5

Focus: Asking God to turn from righteous anger and turn His people back to Himself.

Where do you sense God's discipline in your life or Hope Church?

Pray: "Restore us again, O God of our salvation."

Ask for sensitivity to His grieving Spirit.

14th Jan 2026 – Will You Not Revive Us?

Psalm 85:6

Focus: Revival so that God's people may rejoice in Him, not merely feel better.

What would "revive us again" look like in Hope Church?

Pray that revival would centre on rejoicing in God Himself.

Ask God to awaken sleepy hearts around you.

15th Jan 2026 – Steadfast Love and Salvation

Psalm 85:7

Focus: Pleading for fresh displays of steadfast love and saving power.

Where do you need to see God's love afresh?

Pray for conversions and restored prodigals.

Ask God to "grant us your salvation" in very specific situations.

16th Jan 2026 – Listening for His Voice

Psalm 85:8

Focus: Revival people listen carefully to what the Lord says and turn from folly.

Set aside extra time simply to be quiet before God.

Ask: "Lord, what are you saying to me, to us, at the start of this year?"

Pray for grace not to "return to folly."

17th Jan 2026 – Glory in the Land

Psalm 85:9

Focus: God's salvation near those who fear Him, His glory dwelling among them.

Pray for holy fear of God in your own heart.

Ask God that His presence would be evident in Hope Church.

Intercede for Colchester to see God's glory revealed.

18th Jan 2026 – Love, Faithfulness, Righteousness, Peace

Psalm 85:10–13

Focus: The fruit of revival: steadfast love and faithfulness meeting; righteousness and peace embracing; blessing on the land.

Pray for restored relationships marked by love and faithfulness.

Ask that righteousness and peace shape Hope Church.

Pray that "the Lord will indeed give what is good" to Hope Church.

Week 3 – Psalm 80: Restoration of God’s People

Psalm 80 is a communal lament, repeatedly crying, “Restore us... let your face shine, that we may be saved,” and asking God to revive His vine and flock. It teaches persistent intercession for the wider people of God, not just personal renewal.

19th Jan 2026 – Shepherd of Israel

Psalm 80:1–2

Focus: Looking to the Shepherd-King who leads and saves His people.

Pray for Bryan, Stephen, and Dave to be guided by the true Shepherd.

Ask Jesus to “shine forth” in Hope Church.

Bring before God churches in Colchester that come to mind.

20th Jan 2026 – How Long, O Lord?

Psalm 80:3–5

Focus: Honest lament over God’s apparent distance and painful discipline.

Where do you feel “fed with the bread of tears”?

Bring your “how long?” questions simply and honestly to God.

Still pray, “Restore us... let your face shine.”

21st Jan 2026 – Shame and Mockery

Psalm 80:6–7

Focus: God’s people ridiculed by neighbours, in need of His restoring favour.

Pray for believers under scorn or persecution.

Ask God to vindicate His name where the church is mocked.

Repeat the refrain throughout your day: “Restore us... that we may be saved.”

22nd Jan 2026 – The Vine From Egypt

Psalm 80:8–11

Focus: Israel as God’s vine, rescued from Egypt and planted to fill the land.

Thank God for saving and planting His people for His glory.

Pray that the church would again “take deep root and fill the land.”

Ask for fruitfulness in evangelism and discipleship.

23rd Jan 2026 – Broken Walls, Exposed Vine

Psalm 80:12–13

Focus: When protective walls are broken, the vine is ravaged.

Where have spiritual walls (holiness, prayer, sound teaching) been neglected?

Repent for ways the church has opened itself to harm.

Ask God to rebuild protective “walls” around His people.

24th Jan 2026 – Return, Look Down, See

Psalm 80:14–16

Focus: Pleading with God to turn back, look, and act to save a burning, cut-down vine.

Intercede for spiritually devastated fellowships.

Pray: “Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see.”

Ask for mercy where there has been great spiritual loss.

25th Jan 2026 – Revive Us, and We Will Call

Psalm 80:17–19

Focus: Asking God to put His hand on His chosen one, revive His people, and turn them back to Himself.

Pray for Christ, the true Son at God’s right hand, to be exalted in His church.

Ask God to revive His people so they will call on His name faithfully.

End the 3 weeks by praying Psalm 80:19 slowly as our final corporate cry.