



## Seeking God for Revival

The following are Scripture prayers and ideas to help you seek God for revival. These are some suggestions on how you and your church can seek God for revival. These suggestions are offered to you to help you plead with God for genuine revival in your church and across the nation. **I want to emphasize that these suggestions are not magical formulas.** They are simply ways that you can seek God for revival. Revival comes from God. Receiving revival calls for believers to seek God with faith and with the Word of God. These are suggested starting points for your intercession concerning revival in your church and the nation. You can use these suggestions, add more to them, or you can develop your own prayer requests and reasons from these. As you pray for revival, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leadership. He may give you insights on how to pray for revival in your particular church. He also may give you more Scripture to pray through concerning revival. As you pray through these requests, start with yourself. Ask God to do these things in your life. Plead with Him for a fresh work of His grace and His power. (feel free to print out this form to use during your prayer time)

### Specific Requests

- (1) Pray that God will create a spirit of humility and brokenness among the believers (Isaiah 57:15; James 4:6). God will not revive those who are self-sufficient and proud. The believers must come to see their spiritual bankruptcy and utter dependence on God.
- (2) Pray that God would grant believers a deeper understanding and awareness of His holiness (Isaiah 6:1-5; 1 Peter 15-16). The holiness of God is a neglected subject in the church today. Yet, it is essential to revival. We need to understand that God is utterly holy. He does not and cannot sin. He is not tempted nor is He tempted. He is pure and without the stain of sin. He always does what is right and good. Pray that believers would be gripped by the absolute holiness of God.
- (3) Ask God to reveal to believers the depth and the evil of their sin. Call on the Holy Spirit to move them to confess and repent of their sin (Psalm 19:12-14; 1 John 1:9). The Holy Spirit is grieved when a believer cherishes sin and does not confess and repent of it (Psalm 66:18; Ephesians 4:30). When the Holy Spirit is grieved, He will not release His miraculous, life-transforming power into our midst. Sin has to be dealt with by believers. Believers must be honest about their sin and must come clean with God about these things.
- (4) Plead with God to grant the believers a hunger for the Word of God and a readiness to obey the Word of God (Psalm 119:97, 103; 1 John 2:3-6). Plead with the Holy Spirit to stir within every believer a desire to search and to know the Word of God. Ask Him to remove any complacency toward the Word of God by the believers. Call on Him to stir the believers to be doers of the Word and not simply hearers of the Word (James 1:22-24).
- (5) Ask God to reveal any obstacles that could hinder your church from experiencing genuine revival. Then pray for its removal (Psalm 139:23). Pray that God will reveal anything that is not pleasing to Him in your church. Call on Him to deal with these obstacles. Plead with Him to remove anything that is hindering the church to experience a genuine working of the Holy Spirit in revival.
- (6) Pray that your pastor will preach the Word of God with power, conviction, and authority (1 Corinthians 2:1-4; 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4). Revival usually comes when God gives His people bold, faithful, and fearless preachers of the Word of God. True and powerful preaching of the Word of God is used by God to revive His people. Plead that your pastor will powerfully preach the Word of God. Pray that He will proclaim the fundamental truths of the faith with great clarity, conviction, and power.
- (7) Ask God to deal with any unforgiveness or bitterness among the believers of the church (Ephesians 4:30-32). Unconfessed sin grieves the Holy Spirit. Yet, in the context of Ephesians 4, the emphasis is on right relationships in the church. When believers are at odds with each other, the Spirit is grieved. Nothing quenches the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit like broken relationships among believers. Pray that the broken relationships among believers would be healed. Ask Jesus Christ to bind Satan's work through the broken relationships (Ephesians 4:27). Call on God to deal with the unforgiveness or bitterness that is grieving the Holy Spirit.



(8) Plead that God would convict and save any deceived, unregenerate church members (Matthew 7:21-23; 2 Corinthians 13:5-6). There are times when deceived, unregenerate church members work against what God is doing in the church. They cause believers to stumble. Plead that God would deal with any members who may be deceived and are not truly saved. Call on God to strip their hope in themselves and reveal to them the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

(9) Call on God to convict believers that they must give an account of their lives at the judgment seat of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:9-10). Believers need to realize that they must give an account to God for their lives. There will be a day of judgment for the believer. Believers need to be gripped and motivated by the fact that they will give account to the Lord Jesus Christ one day. Pray that believers will realize this and remember this.

(10) Pray that God will grant the believers an agonizing burden for lost people and an unceasing desire to share the gospel with them (Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 9:1-3). Call on God to create within believers a burden to pray for and share the gospel of Jesus Christ with lost people. Plead with Him to grant this to every believer.

(11) Plead that God will give the believers a deeper love for the Lord Jesus Christ (1 John 4:1-3). The Spirit of God enables people to confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Revival is a powerful work of the Holy Spirit in which He draws believers closer to the Lord Jesus Christ. In revival, he leads believers to love and to confess Jesus Christ in a deeper, more faithful way than at other times. Pray that the Holy Spirit will deepen the believers' love for and confession of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Lord and Savior.

## **Prayer Arguments**

The following are prayer arguments that you can use to plead with God for revival. These prayer arguments are biblical reasons that you can use to call on God to revive His people. Nehemiah provides an example of this kind of praying (Nehemiah 1). Nehemiah 1 records Nehemiah's prayer for the restoration of Jerusalem. The city was in ruins and God's name and glory were at stake. Nehemiah prays to God and calls on Him to restore Jerusalem. In calling on God to restore Jerusalem, Nehemiah quotes from Deuteronomy. He gives scriptural reasons why God should restore Jerusalem. The following prayer arguments are scriptural reasons why God should grant genuine revival to His church. You can use these to plead with God to grant the revival that is so desperately need. You can take these and develop other prayer arguments to use in pleading with God. The key issue is to plead with God's own Word. Call on God to be faithful to His own Word.

(1) Father, this church bears Your name. We are Your representatives in this world. We have dishonored You and Your name through our indifference, unconcern, and lack of holiness. How can You bear allowing us to continue as we are? Have mercy on us, O God! Grant revival to us that we might live lives worthy for Your name's sake (2 Corinthians 5:20).

(2) Father, we have become a reproach to the lost world around us. Our lack of holiness and failure to deal with sin has brought on us the contempt and ridicule of the world. How can You let Your church be ridiculed? How can You stand the fact that Your church lacks influence in this community? O God, have mercy on us! Revive Your church that we may exercise a righteous influence in the world. Cause Your presence and power to be displayed in this church so that believers and unbelievers will be in awe of You. Do this, O God, for the sake of Your Son, who bought and established the church with His own blood! For the sake of Jesus and His love for the church, grant revival to Your people (Acts 20:28).

(3) Father, You have commanded in Your Word that we must not grieve the Holy Spirit. Yet, I confess that we have grieved Your Holy Spirit. He is grieved because of our sin and unwillingness to deal with that sin. I plead that You would grant revival so that we would deal with our sin as never before in our relationship to You. Do this so that Your Holy Spirit will no longer be grieved. Do this so that Your Holy Spirit will be pleased to release His power into our midst (Ephesians 4:30).

(4) Father, I plead that You will grant revival in order to deal with our unbelief. Jesus will not work in an atmosphere of unbelief. I believe, Lord; help my unbelief! I pray that You will grant revival and increase our faith in You as never before in our relationship to You. As you do this, I trust that Jesus will transform lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. O God, I plead that You would remove our unbelief. Have mercy on us! Forgive our lack of faith! Grant revival so that Your people will



have a renewed faith so that we can experience the miraculous power of Jesus Christ in our midst (Hebrews 11:6; James 1:5-8).

(5) Father, Your gospel is the good news about Your Son, Jesus Christ. It is the glorious and gracious message that through His Person and His work, sinners can be brought into a right relationship with You. It is the power of God to salvation. It is the message that brings sinners into a right relationship to You. It is the greatest message ever given among people. Yet, we are not sharing this message. We have grown indifferent to this message. We have failed to proclaim this message on a continual basis to the lost who are in desperate need of it. Forgive us of this abominable sin! Have mercy on us, O God! Grant revival to us that we would share this message with the lost. Send genuine revival so that Your gospel will go forth in power from us! For the sake of Your gospel, I plead that You will grant revival (Romans 1:16).

(6) Father, You have declared in Your Word that if I call to You that You will show me great and mighty things which I do not know. I am calling to You, O God! I am pleading with You to grant revival to the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church. We desperately need it. You have the power to grant it. I am calling on You and am believing You for this. This is Your Word. I am calling to You, Father. Will You be true to Your Word? Are you going to be faithful to Your promise Father? For the sake of Your Word, I plead that You will grant revival to Your people (Jeremiah 33:3).

### **Scripture Prayers Concerning Revival**

The following are Scripture prayers that you can use to plead with God for revival. These requests are based on the Word of God and are the revealed will of God for the church. Plead these Scripture prayers with confidence and persistence. As always, begin by praying for yourself and then move to interceding for the other believers concerning revival.

O God, revive the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church so that we may rejoice in You (Psalm 85:6)

Restore, O God, the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church; make Your face to shine on us that we may be delivered from our backsliding (Psalm 80:7).

Rise up and help the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church; restore us to Yourself because of Your redeeming love (Psalm 44:8).

Father, grant a spirit of brokenness and repentance to the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church (Isaiah 57:15).

Living God, give the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church a fresh and powerful vision of Your holiness (Isaiah 6).

Almighty God, create in the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church a clean heart and renew a steadfast spirit within us (Psalm 51:1).

O Lord, do not take away the sense of Your presence from us and do not take away Your Holy Spirit from us (Psalm 51:11; Revelation 2:5).

Holy God, cause the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to acknowledge our transgressions and to see that our sins are ever before You (Psalm 51:3).

Father, cause the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to be receptive to and responsive to Your holy Word (Nehemiah 8:8-9).

Father, cause the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to be broken and humble, trembling at Your Word (Isaiah 66:2).



Lord God, cause the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to call on Your name and to stir ourselves to lay hold of You (Isaiah 64:7).

Father, stir the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to remove anything from our lives or church that would hinder our experience of revival (Luke 3:4-6).

God, convict the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church of any unforgiveness and bitterness. Give us no joy, peace, or rest until this is dealt with (Ephesians 4:30-32).

Father, as the deer thirsts for the streams of water, so cause the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to thirst for You (Psalm 42:1-2).

Lord, I plead that the Holy Spirit will work powerfully among the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church (John 16:7).

Revive us, O God, that the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church will obey Your holy Word (Psalm 119:88).

O Lord, heal our backsliding; love us freely; turn Your anger away from us (Hosea 14:4).

Though our sins testify against us, restore the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church for Your great name's sake (Jeremiah 14:7).

Father, I plead that You will convict and save those who belong to this church who have been deceived about true salvation and are actually lost. Have mercy on them and save them (Matthew 23:27-28)!

Lord Jesus, enable the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to return to You as our first love (Revelation 2:4).

Father, convict the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church of the sin of compromise. Cause us to hate this sin and to deal immediately with it (Revelation 2:3).

Lord Jesus, break the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church from a spirit of self-sufficiency and grant us a spirit of dependence on You (Revelation 2:17).

Father, I plead that You will create a spirit of praise among the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church (Psalm 150).

Father, enable us to deal with anything in our lives and our church that we have placed above You (Exodus 20:1-2).

Have mercy on the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church and restore us to a right relationship to Yourself (Psalm 51).

O God, grant the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church a burden for lost souls (Romans 10:1).

Father, create within the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church a spirit of prayer and fasting (Colossians 4:2).

Lord, reveal to the believers of \_\_\_\_\_ Church what is not pleasing in Your sight. Give us an unceasing burden about these things until they are dealt with (Psalm 139:23).

O God, cause Your people of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to love You with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength (Matthew 22:37-38).

Father, cause Your people of \_\_\_\_\_ Church to love each other with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength (Matthew 22:39).



## Dealing With Your Idols

In 1 John 5:21, the apostle John warns believers to keep themselves from idols. An idol is anything or anybody that you love more than God. It is anything or anybody in your life that receives greater priority in your life than God. This verse reveals that Christians are in danger of allowing things and people to become more important, to receive a greater priority in our lives, than God.

If the people of God are going to experience revival, our idols must be put away (1 Samuel 7:3). In order to return to the Lord and experience revival, you must deal with those things that receive a greater priority in your life than your relationship to God. The following prayer requests are offered to help you identify the idols in your life and then deal with them. These prayers are based on the Word of God and focus on the idolatrous loves that God despises and condemns. Your idolatry must be confessed and repented of. You can begin this process with the following prayer. Then you can pray through the other requests. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any idols that you have built in your life. Plead with Him to enable You to deal with these idolatrous loves and to remove them from your life. Pray that other believers will deal with the idols in their lives.

"Father, You have declared that I am to love You first of all, best of all, and most of all. You have said in Matthew 22:37-38 that I am to love You with my entire being. This is Your Word. This is Your desire and command for me. I plead with You to grant me the grace and power to do this. Reveal to me the idols that I have erected in my life. Show me anything that I love more than You--anything that I have made a higher priority than You. I pray that Your Holy Spirit would convict me deeply and powerfully concerning the idols in my life. Enable me to deal with them. Amen."

Love of money: I pray that I would not love money more than You and that I would not have a sinful longing for it. Do not allow my pursuit of money to be greater or more important to me than my pursuit of knowing, loving, and obeying You (1 Timothy 6:10).

Love of self: I plead that I would not love myself more than You, Father. Deliver me from being self-centered and grant me the power and strength to deny myself (2 Timothy 3:2).

Love of approval: Father, I pray that I will love and seek Your approval above the approval of men. Cause me to pursue a lifestyle of pleasing You rather than men (John 12:42).

Love of power or control: Father, enable me to overcome the desire for power. I plead that You will create in me a servant's heart and willing to serve others (3 John 9:10).

Love of pleasure: I plead that I will not love pleasure more than You. Cause me to find my greatest delight and pleasure in You (2 Timothy 3:4).

Love of food: Father, I want You to be my God and not my stomach. Cause me to have the proper perspective when it comes to food (Proverbs 21:17)

Love of sleep: Enable me to get the proper rest, but deliver me from indulging in too much sleep and laziness (Proverbs 20:13).

Love of darkness (sin): I pray that I would not love my sin more than You. Cause me to hate sin and to love You with all my being (John 3:19).

Love of simplicity: Father, I ask that I would not prefer my own wisdom above Your Word (Proverbs 1:22).

Love of cursing: I pray that I would not love speaking profanity and filth above speaking words of love and encouragement (Psalm 109:17).

Love of abundance: I ask that the pursuit of my life would not be gaining material possessions. I ask that You would grant me the grace and power to love You and pursue You above all else (Ecclesiastes 5:10).



Love of the things of the world: Father, do not allow me to love the attitudes and actions of this world above You. Deliver me from the lust of the flesh and eyes and the pride of life. Cause me to love You and Your Word more than this world (1 John 2:15).

#### Revelation 2-3 Prayer Model

Revelation 2-3 are Christ's messages to the churches of Asia Minor in the first century. These messages speak to churches of all ages. By praying through these chapters, you can plead with God to bring revival and change to your church. The following are suggested prayer requests that you can pray concerning revival in your church:

- (1) Pray that God will give the believers a fresh vision of the Lord Jesus Christ (1:12-18).
- (2) Plead that God will enable believers to return to Jesus Christ as their first love, their top priority (2:1-7).
- (3) Ask that believers will commit themselves to be faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ no matter what their circumstances are (2:8-11).
- (4) Call on God to convict believers about the evil of tolerating sin and false doctrine in the midst of the church (2:12-17).
- (5) Plead with God to deal with immorality in the church (2:18-29). Ask God to strengthen the marriages in your church and to strengthen the singles to live a life of sexual purity. Plead that your church will be an example marital faithfulness and sexual purity to the lost world around you.
- (6) Pray that God will convict the believers of your church of simply going through the motions (3:1-7). Pray that God would create in the believers a desire to pursue holiness and obedience rather than being content with the appearance of spiritual life and vitality.
- (7) Pray that God will mold the church into a body that He can powerfully use (3:7-13). Plead that God would deal with any hindrances that are keeping your church from providing a powerful witness and ministry to the world.
- (8) Plead that God would destroy a self-sufficient, proud spirit from the believers who make up the church (3:14-22).