

Revived: 10 Steps to your Revival

Are you dying spiritually and how would you even know? Jesus is our only source of life, may we find our way back to true revival.

Signs of Dying on the Vine

Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, the pride of life.

1 John 2:15-17

New Living Translation

15 Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. 16 For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. 17 And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

American Mall Parking Lot Testimony

John 15:1-8

New Living Translation

15 "I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener.

- Jesus is the source of life to those that belong to/abide in Him.
- God the Father cares for the grapevine and the branches and receives glory when there is much fruit.

2 He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.

Dying on the vine:

- Where there is no fruit there is no L.I.F.E
- Where there's no life there's no nutrients.

3 You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

Dying on the vine:

- Only the word of God brings the nutrients we need to produce fruit. If we remove ourselves from the study of, and obedience to the word we're in danger of being severed from the vine.

5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

Dying on the vine:

- Those who remove themselves from close fellowship with the word will find it impossible to accomplish anything purpose related which glorifies God.

6 Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned.

Dying on the vine:

- If you leave your first love, and return to the lust of this world we are thrown away and gathered to be burned.

7 But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! 8 When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

But if.....

- The key to personal revival is to recognize that you've separated yourself from the King, the Vine, the source of life. The study of, and obedience to the word of God activates faith and propels you towards a fruitful purpose.

Producing the Lord's Fruit

Philippians 1:9-11

New Living Translation

9 I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. 10 For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. 11 May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ[a]—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

- If the Lord's fruit is in us it means we'll have His character as well.

Mephibosheth Revived/ 10 Steps of Revival

1. Recognizing the royal source of love, goodness, kindness, and power.

Mephibosheth - grandson of King Saul, Israel's first king. Son of Jonathan David's best friend.

Revelation 19:11-16

New Living Translation

The Rider on the White Horse

11 Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war. 12 His eyes were like flames of fire, and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him that no one understood except himself. 13 He wore a robe dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven,

dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. 15 From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a winepress. 16 On his robe at his thigh[a] was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords.

Romans 15:13

New Living Translation

13 I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

2. A covenant, a promised commitment to the well being of another.

3 Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

Hebrews 8

New Living Translation

Christ Is Our High Priest

8 Here is the main point: We have a High Priest who sat down in the place of honor beside the throne of the majestic God in heaven. 2 There he ministers in the heavenly Tabernacle,[a] the true place of worship that was built by the Lord and not by human hands.

3 And since every high priest is required to offer gifts and sacrifices, our High Priest must make an offering, too. 4 If he were here on earth, he would not even be a priest, since there already are priests who offer the gifts required by the law. 5 They serve in a system of worship that is only a copy, a shadow of the real one in heaven. For when Moses was getting ready to build the Tabernacle, God gave him this warning: "Be sure that you make everything according to the pattern I have shown you here on the mountain."^[b]

6 But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for he is the one who mediates for us a far better covenant with God, based on better promises.

7 If the first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need for a second covenant to replace it. 8 But when God found fault with the people, he said:

“The day is coming, says the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel and Judah.

9 This covenant will not be like the one
I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
and led them out of the land of Egypt.

They did not remain faithful to my covenant,
so I turned my back on them, says the Lord.

10 But this is the new covenant I will make
with the people of Israel on that day,[c] says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their minds,
and I will write them on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

11 And they will not need to teach their neighbors,
nor will they need to teach their relatives,[d]
saying, ‘You should know the Lord.’

For everyone, from the least to the greatest,
will know me already.

12 And I will forgive their wickedness,
and I will never again remember their sins.”[e]

13 When God speaks of a “new” covenant, it means he has made the first one obsolete. It is now out of date and will soon disappear.

Hebrews 13:5

New King James Version

5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

3. A separation, whether real or perceived, from the abundance of life, caused by the thief Satan.

Saul and Jonathan were killed and battle and Mephibosheth was crippled and separated from the royal life he once knew.

How does Satan separate us? By persuading us to disconnect ourselves from faith.

Luke 22:31-32

New Living Translation

31 “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. 32 But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So **when you have repented and turned to me again,** strengthen your brothers.”

- One sure sign that we need revival is our denial of Jesus. It’s not that we say we don’t know Him, rather we deny doing the things that grow the relationship.
- When we fail to live by faith our spiritual life diminishes. What began in faith must remain in faith.
- Repentance leads to revival, causes us to turn to Him, then we turn to our brothers. The love cycle.

How does Satan separate us? By persuading us to disconnect ourselves from faith.

1 Peter 5:8-9

New Living Translation

8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. 9 Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers[a] all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.

4. A reunion between the victim and the victor.

2 Samuel 9:3-5

New Living Translation

3 The king then asked him, "Is anyone still alive from Saul's family? If so, I want to show God's kindness to them."

Ziba replied, "Yes, one of Jonathan's sons is still alive. He is crippled in both feet."

4 "Where is he?" the king asked.

"In Lo-debar," Ziba told him, "at the home of Makir son of Ammiel."

5 So David sent for him and brought him from Makir's home.

Source: <https://www.gotquestions.org/Lo-Debar-in-the-Bible.html>

Lo Debar (or Lo-debar) is a town only mentioned a few times in Scripture. If it is, as many scholars assume, the same town as Debir, mentioned several times in the book of Joshua, we find that it was one of the cities of Canaan that Joshua destroyed (Joshua 10:39). Debir, whose name means "pasture" or "sheepfold," was located near the Valley of Achor (Joshua 15:7) on the northern boundary of Judah, somewhere between Jerusalem and Jericho. The exact location of the town is impossible to ascertain. If Lo Debar is the same town as Debir, somewhere in its history the name was changed to Lo Debar.

Debar normally means "word" or "thing." The prefix lo is a negator; thus, the term Lo Debar would mean "no word" or "no thing." The town's name is not complimentary. The name may or may not have been an apt description of the town. If it was an apt description, it may have been lacking good pasture, or it may have been an insignificant, "nothing town." In English we might say that it was "in the middle of nowhere."

Lo Debar is first mentioned in connection with Mephibosheth, the only surviving son of Jonathan, son of King Saul. David wanted to show kindness to Jonathan's family, and he was told that Mephibosheth was living in Lo Debar. The story is found in 2 Samuel 9. Mephibosheth leaves "Nothingville" (Lo Debar) and moves into the king's residence in Jerusalem—from Podunk to palace.

Again we see here that he lived in a town that represented a place with "no word", no fruit, no pastures.

James 4:7-10

New Living Translation

7 So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. 9 Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

Matthew 4:4

New Living Translation

4 But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say,

'People do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'[a]"

2 Timothy 3:15-17

New Living Translation

15 You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

Psalms 19:7-14

New Living Translation

7 The instructions of the Lord are perfect,
reviving the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.

8 The commandments of the Lord are right,
bringing joy to the heart.

The commands of the Lord are clear,
giving insight for living.

9 Reverence for the Lord is pure,
lasting forever.

The laws of the Lord are true;
each one is fair.

10 They are more desirable than gold,
even the finest gold.

They are sweeter than honey,
even honey dripping from the comb.

11 They are a warning to your servant,
a great reward for those who obey them.

12 How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart?
Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

13 Keep your servant from deliberate sins!
Don't let them control me.

Then I will be free of guilt
and innocent of great sin.

14 May the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be pleasing to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

5. Surrender and reverence to the Reviver.

We must be sure to remember we can always come to Jesus exactly as we are. He is the Reviver, he gives us beauty for ashes and redeems all that was lost. He gives life for death, and joy for mourning.

But are you willing to surrender it all?

Esther 2:12-14

New Living Translation

12 Before each young woman was taken to the king's bed, she was given the prescribed twelve months of beauty treatments—six months with oil of myrrh, followed by six months with special perfumes and ointments. 13 When it was time for her to go to the king's palace, she was given her choice of whatever clothing or jewelry she wanted to take from the harem. 14 That evening she was taken to the king's private rooms, and the next morning she was brought to the second harem,[a] where the king's wives lived. There she would be under the care of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch in charge of the concubines. She would never go to the king again unless he had especially enjoyed her and requested her by name.

- Before her meeting with the King. Esther had her “life together”.
- Under the care of the King's eunuch
- A special menu catered specifically for her
- 7 maids from the King's palace
- 6 months of beauty treatments with oil and myrrh
- 6 months of beauty treatments with special perfumes and ointments
- Her own choice of the finest clothing in the palace
- Her own choice of the grandest jewelry in the Kingdom.

Esther 4:15-16

New Living Translation

15 Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: 16 “Go and gather together all the Jews of Susa and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will do the same. And then, though it is against the law, I will go in to see the king. If I must die, I must die.

- Esther had the finest of everything but yet was still willing to die.

2 Samuel 9:1-8

New Living Translation

David’s Kindness to Mephibosheth

9 One day David asked, “Is anyone in Saul’s family still alive—anyone to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan’s sake?” 2 He summoned a man named Ziba, who had been one of Saul’s servants. “Are you Ziba?” the king asked.

“Yes sir, I am,” Ziba replied.

3 The king then asked him, “Is anyone still alive from Saul’s family? If so, I want to show God’s kindness to them.”

Ziba replied, “Yes, one of Jonathan’s sons is still alive. He is crippled in both feet.”

4 “Where is he?” the king asked.

“In Lo-debar,” Ziba told him, “at the home of Makir son of Ammiel.”

5 So David sent for him and brought him from Makir’s home. 6 His name was Mephibosheth[a]; he was Jonathan’s son and Saul’s grandson. When he came to David, he bowed low to the ground in deep respect. David said, “Greetings, Mephibosheth.”

Mephibosheth replied, “I am your servant.”

7 “Don’t be afraid!” David said. “I intend to show kindness to you because of my promise to your father, Jonathan. I will give you all the property that once belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will eat here with me at the king’s table!”

8 Mephibosheth bowed respectfully and exclaimed, “Who is your servant, that you should show such kindness to a dead dog like me?”

Mephibosheth’s meeting with the King was much different than Esther’s. Esther had the best of everything and was willing to die. Mephibosheth had nothing and already considered himself dead. **“Say, Revival!”**

- Esther walked in as a queen and Mephibosheth was crippled in both feet. ***How are you walking today?***
- Esther lived in royalty, Mephibosheth lived in obscurity. ***Are you thriving or just surviving? Are you in the palace or the pit?***
- Esther had the best of everything and was willing to die. Mephibosheth had nothing and already considered himself dead. Esther was willing to sacrifice herself to save her people. Mephibosheth considered himself dead because his family and dreams already were.
- Esther presented her best self to the King. Mephibosheth could only surrender himself as He was, broken and brokenhearted.

Proverbs 13:12

New Living Translation

12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life.

- Mephibosheth was five when his father and grandfather were killed. He was crippled in his childhood. ***How old were you? We can become trapped in trauma.***
- It may have been 16 years before Prince Mephibosheth encountered someone from the royalty from which he came. ***How long have you been waiting?***

- The King sent His word for Mephibosheth to be brought from Lodebar, a place with no word, no life, no hope. ***Have you received a word? Are you saved but still awaiting total salvation in your life?***

Hebrews 3:12-19

New Living Translation

12 Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters.[a] Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. 13 You must warn each other every day, while it is still “today,” so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. 14 For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ. 15 Remember what it says:

“Today when you hear his voice,
don’t harden your hearts
as Israel did when they rebelled.”[b]

16 And who was it who rebelled against God, even though they heard his voice? Wasn’t it the people Moses led out of Egypt? 17 And who made God angry for forty years? Wasn’t it the people who sinned, whose corpses lay in the wilderness? 18 And to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they would never enter his rest? Wasn’t it the people who disobeyed him? 19 So we see that because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his rest.

The worst place to meet a king

Luke 23:32-43

New Living Translation

32 Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. 33 When they came to a place called The Skull,[a] they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left.

34 Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”[b]
And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice.[c]

35 The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. “He saved others,” they said, “let him save himself if he is really God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.” 36 The soldiers mocked him, too, by offering him a drink of sour wine. 37 They called out to him, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” 38 A sign was fastened above him with these words: “This is the King of the Jews.”

39 One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you’re at it!”

40 But the other criminal protested, “Don’t you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? 41 We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn’t done anything wrong.” 42 Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”

43 And Jesus replied, “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

- There’s a good chance that the thieves were also naked and publically shamed. ***Are you willing to surrender your hurt, sin, and shame? Are you willing to show him how much Satan has punished you so He can prepare you for paradise?***
- Why are we so afraid to present our sin and shame to the King?

1 John 4:16-18

New Living Translation

16 We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love.

God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. 17 And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world.

18 Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.

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Revived: Freedom

6. A new covenant of revival and restoration.

Mephibosheth's Bondage

John 10:10

New King James Version

10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

His family had been murdered by Phillistines.

- Dropped by a nurse at age 5 and crippled in both feet.
- Living in Lodebar a place with no word or pasture.
- He and his son/family were living with someone, and didn't have his own home or property.
- Still living in fear
- Low self-worth, mouth of shame/dead dog

A New Covenant

King David brings freedom to Mephibosheth

2 Samuel 9:6-12

New King James Version

6 Now when Mephibosheth[a] the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, “Mephibosheth?”

And he answered, “Here is your servant!”

7 So David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father’s sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually.”

8 Then he bowed himself, and said, “What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?”

9 And the king called to Ziba, Saul’s servant, and said to him, “I have given to your master’s son all that belonged to Saul and to all his house. 10 You therefore, and your sons and your servants, shall work the land for him, and you shall bring in the harvest, that your master’s son may have food to eat. But Mephibosheth your master’s son shall eat bread at my table always.” Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 Then Ziba said to the king, “According to all that my lord the king has commanded his servant, so will your servant do.”

“As for Mephibosheth,” said the king, “he shall eat at [b]my table like one of the king’s sons.” 12 Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Micha. And all who dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants of Mephibosheth.

The bondage of sin

1 John 3:4-10

New Living Translation

4 Everyone who sins is breaking God’s law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. 5 And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. 6 Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know him or understand who he is.

7 Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. 8 But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. 9 Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life[a] is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God. 10 So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers[b] does not belong to God.

King Jesus came to restore our freedom, to revive us!

Hebrews 9:11-15

New Living Translation

Christ Is the Perfect Sacrifice

11 So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come.[a] He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. 12 With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.

13 Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer could cleanse people's bodies from ceremonial impurity. 14 Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds[b] so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. 15 That is why he is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant.

Hebrews 10:10-18

New Living Translation

10 For God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time.

11 Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. 12 But our High Priest offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. 13 There he waits until his enemies are humbled and made a footstool under his feet. 14 For by that one offering he forever made perfect those who are being made holy.

15 And the Holy Spirit also testifies that this is so. For he says,

16 "This is the new covenant I will make
with my people on that day,[a] says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds." [b]

17 Then he says,

"I will never again remember
their sins and lawless deeds." [c]

18 And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.

King Jesus brings freedom to His people

Romans 6:19-23

New Living Translation

19 Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this. Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity and lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin. Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy.

20 When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the obligation to do right. 21 And what was the result? You are now ashamed of the things you used to do, things that end in eternal doom. 22 But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness

and result in eternal life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

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7. A humble response to the offer of revival and restoration.

8 Mephibosheth bowed respectfully and exclaimed, “Who is your servant, that you should show such kindness to a dead dog like me?”

8. A royal command setting revival in place.

9 Then the king summoned Saul’s servant Ziba and said, “I have given your master’s grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. 10 You and your sons and servants are to farm the land for him to produce food for your master’s household.[b] But Mephibosheth, your master’s grandson, will eat here at my table.” (Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.)

9. Obedience to the command.

11 Ziba replied, "Yes, my lord the king; I am your servant, and I will do all that you have commanded."

10. Revived - to forever be connected to and in the company of the giver of life.

And from that time on, Mephibosheth ate regularly at David's table,[c] like one of the king's own sons.

12 Mephibosheth had a young son named Mica. From then on, all the members of Ziba's household were Mephibosheth's servants. 13 And Mephibosheth, who was crippled in both feet, lived in Jerusalem and ate regularly at the king's table.

10 Keys to Being Revived

1. A source of love, goodness, kindness, power and love.
2. A covenant, a promised commitment to the well being of another.
3. A separation, whether real or perceived, from the abundance of life, caused by the thief Satan.
4. A reunion between the victim and the victor.
5. Surrender and reverence to the Reviver.
6. A new covenant of revival and restoration.
7. A humble response to the offer of revival and restoration.
8. A royal command setting revival in place.
9. Obedience to the command.
10. Revived - to forever be connected to and in the company of the giver of life.