

# Have Mercy on Me O God

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## Happy Wednesday!

Or should I say, "Happy last Wednesday of the year!"

Wow! What a year it has been. Personally, I've had wonderful highs and dark, deep lows; yet I praise God for His faithfulness in every season. There is no peak that I climbed without Him; there is no pit I fell into that He didn't comfort, console, and guard me (and helped me climb out of). He is faithful, even when I am not and even when my circumstances look bleak.

As we move out of 2023, what are you looking toward in 2024? A new year is a common time to set goals, but don't forget: it's never too late to start. With God, you can start over at any moment, any day, week, or month. HIS mercies for you are new every morning, and His faithfulness never ceases.

So, what are you looking toward in 2024?  
Personally, mentally, physically, and spiritually?

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.* Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise. You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.” Psalms 51:1-17 NIV

King David wrote this Psalm (poem, prayer, or song to God) when he became aware of a sin (which led to subsequent sins). My personal prayer for the year is to become more aware of my desperate need of God's forgiveness. Each of us commits sins against Him, and none of us is without sin. And like David prayed above: take away my sins, forgive me, purify me, cleanse me, and then *create a pure heart within me, renew a right spirit within me, and restore to me the joy of Your salvation and saving love.*

Whatever your goals are, don't forget to make spiritual growth goals. Where do you want to be in your relationship with your Creator by this time next month? In 6-months? In a year? In 5 years?

It all starts with repentance then seeking His face. Join me in growing closer to God tomorrow, next week, next month, and next year!

Father I thank you for loving me, thank you that you are always with me, always spurring me on to make progress in Your strength. Help me pursue you through diligence, self-discipline, and commitment to Your Word. Cleanse me and recreate my heart so that I long to please You in everything.

“Greater Still” by Brandon Lake <https://youtu.be/-0Zrn1o0VXY?si=KlhaGD9pCnFnPFHc>  
[\[youtu.be\]](#)

“Psalm 51 (Wisdom in The Secret Heart)” by Shane and Shane <https://youtu.be/px-eU1QjQiU?si=oTNgAMSxvh6GiF6l> [\[youtu.be\]](#)

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