

**What we need at the start of 2019 (Psalm 80)**

**Introduction**

- How might we feel as Christians at the start of 2019?

**Psalm 80**

- What is Psalm 80 like?
- What are v1-3 all about?
- Why are God's people in trouble?
- How do these verses challenge us?
- What are v4-7 all about?
- What are v8-13 all about?
- What does Asaph liken Israel to?
- How does this relate to the situation of the people?
- What are v14-19 all about?

**Lessons**

- Which verses contain the psalm's refrain?
- How does the refrain gather momentum as it goes?
- What is the first lesson of the psalm's refrain about?
- What does the Hebrew word translated "restore us" actually mean?
- So what is Asaph praying for?

- What question should we ask ourselves?
- Why don't we often examine how our relationship with the Lord is going?
- What sorts of self-examination questions could you ask yourself?
- Do you as an individual or we as a church need to act here?
- What is the second lesson of the psalm's refrain about?
- What do Asaph's words pick up on?
- What is the picture here and what does it mean?
- What vital lesson does this teach us?
- What are two ways in which the Lord might transform our situations from misery to blessing?
  - i)
  - ii)
- What does suffering often do to Christians?
- What is the first application of this for us as individuals?
- What is the second application of this for us as a church?
- What is the third lesson of the psalm's refrain about?
- Asaph speaks about God in v19. What does the first additional word which he uses about Him mean?
- And what about the second?
- What does this teach us about the Lord?
- How do we know Him?
- What does it mean to us that God is like this?
- How can you come to know Him if you do not know Him at the moment?