



Ness Bank Church Bible Readings and Prayer Prompts for Autumn 2026

This mini-booklet is designed for you to pull out of the church newsletter and keep, so that you can use it in the coming weeks to assist you in bible reading and in prayer.

There's nothing like the written word of God for showing you the way to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. Every part of scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another – showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

(2 Timothy 3.15-17, the Message paraphrase)

'Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.

The world is full of so-called prayer warriors who are prayer-ignorant. They're full of formulas and programmes and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. Don't fall for that nonsense. This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need.

With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this:

Our Father in heaven, reveal who you are, set the world right; do what's best – as above, so below. Keep us alive with three square meals. Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others. Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil. You're in charge: You can do anything You want! You're ablaze in beauty!

(Matthew 6.6-13, the Message paraphrase)

September 2026

1st Amos 1:11-2:5

2nd Amos 2:6-16

3rd Amos 3:1-15

4th Amos 4:1-13

5th Amos 5:1-17

6th Psalm 102

7th Amos 5:18-27

8th Amos 6:1-14

9th Amos 1:1-17

10th Amos 8:1-14

11th Amos 9:1-10

12th Amos 9:11-15

13th Psalm 103

14th Matthew 14:1-12

15th Matthew 14:13-21

16th Matthew 14:22-36

17th Matthew 15:1-20

18th Matthew 15:21-28

19th Matthew 15:29-39

20th Psalm 104

21st Matthew 16:1-12

22nd Matthew 16:13-20

23rd Matthew 16:21-28

24th Matthew 17:1-13

25th Matthew 17:14-23

26th Matthew 17:24-27

27th Psalm 105

28th Matthew 18:1-9

29th Matthew 18:10-14

30th Matthew 18:15-20

*Make the book live to me, O Lord, Show me Yourself within Your word,
Show me myself, and show me my Saviour, And make the book live to me.
(H.Pope, 1879-1967)*

October 2026

1st Matthew 18:21-35

2nd Matthew 19:1-15

3rd Matthew 19:16-30

4th Psalm 106

5th 2 Kings 22:1-20

6th 2 Kings 23:1-18

7th 2 Kings 23:19-30

8th 2 Kings 24:8-20a

9th 2 Kings 24:20b-25:21

10th 2 Kings 25:22-30

11th Psalm 107

12th Matthew 20:1-16

13th Matthew 20:17-28

14th Matthew 20:29-34

15th Matthew 21:1-11

16th Matthew 21:12-17

17th Matthew 21:18-27

18th Psalm 108

19th Matthew 21:28-32

20th Matthew 21:33-46

21st Matthew 22:1-14

22nd Matthew 22:15-22

23rd Matthew 22:23-33

24th Matthew 22:34-46

25th Psalm 109

26th Jeremiah 31:1-22

27th Jeremiah 31:27-40

28th Jeremiah 33:1-26

29th Jeremiah 36:1-32

30th Jeremiah 38:1-28

31st Jeremiah 39:1-18

These daily readings are a programme designed by Scripture Union. SU publishes explanatory notes to accompany the readings – called Daily Bread – or you can sign up to the Word Live service to receive the notes and readings online each day at :-

www.scriptureunion.org.uk

November 2026

1st Psalm 110
2nd Jeremiah 40:1-41:3
3rd Jeremiah 41:16-42:22
4th Jeremiah 43:1-13
5th Jeremiah 44:1-30
6th Jeremiah 51:33-64
7th Jeremiah 52:1-34

8th Psalm 111
9th Ephesians 1:1-14
10th Ephesians 1:15-23
11th Ephesians 2:1-10
12th Ephesians 2:11-22
13th Ephesians 3:1-13
14th Ephesians 3:14-21

15th Psalm 112
16th Ephesians 4:1-16
17th Ephesians 4:17-32
18th Ephesians 5:1-20
19th Ephesians 5:21-33
20th Ephesians 6:1-9
21st Ephesians 6:10-24

22nd Psalm 113
23rd Proverbs 10:1-22
24th Proverbs 11:1-31
25th Proverbs 15:1-33
26th Proverbs 16:1-33
27th Proverbs 17:1-28
28th Proverbs 18:1-24

29th Psalm 114
30th Matthew 23:1-12

There are other sources for bible reading programmes, such as the Lectio 365 app, which takes users through readings, prayers and prompts for meditation each day.

***Praying for ourselves, our community, our world
– and for God’s kingdom to come!***

*Living Lord and Heavenly Father, I offer up today all that I am, all that I have, and all that
I suffer, to be yours today and yours forever.*

*Give me grace, Lord, to do all that I know of your holy will. Purify my heart, sanctify my
thinking, correct my desires.*

*Teach me in all of today’s work and trouble and joy, to respond with honest praise, simple
trust, and instant obedience; that my life may be in truth a living sacrifice, by the power of
your Holy Spirit, and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, my master and my all, Amen.*

(Author unknown)

The apostle Paul, founder of many churches, and author of many letters, gives us some marvellous models in praying for one another and for the work of God in the world around us. This prayer comes early in his letter to a group of churches in the area around Ephesus (Ephesians 1.17-19).

**I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give
you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.**

In John’s gospel, ch17 v3, Jesus is praying just before his trial, and says, “Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” Here we see Paul picking up those words, and reinforcing their importance – to personally know God (not merely know about him, or have excellent bible knowledge) as our Father, is to be fully alive!

No matter what is happening in our lives, and to those around us, we can pray this with confidence; that God would open the understanding of hearts and minds to know him better. There will always be more wonderful things to discover in the glorious loving faithfulness of our God!

**I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know
the hope to which he has called you,**

In the passage of John’s gospel mentioned above, Jesus has promised his disciples that he goes to prepare a place for them with his Father, and that he will return to bring them home. This is the hope of the Christian, a hope which nothing that happens to us can take away. This hope changes everything about life in the present age, and equips us to walk in it by faith, loving and trusting the One who calls us.

We can pray for ourselves and one another, that we might become more confident in our hope – really grasping just what it means to be the beloved, adopted and secure children of God, with a home in glory. This hope is our anchor, and a steadying centre in all of life’s storms.

that you may know,the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,
The bible is quite clear that the church – the global community of believers – are God's holy people. This is not some specially equipped group, but all of us! And our identity is 'God's glorious inheritance'!

Let us pray then that we might learn to see and love one another in this way. We are the community where divine love dwells and is made visible; we are the community in which God's treasures lie. We are his precious jewels and he longs for us to cherish and delight in one another even as he delights in us.

that you may know.... His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms...

'Incomparable' – what a marvellous word to use as we consider the God whom we call Father, and who reveals himself to us in Jesus Christ, his Son our Lord. There is none like him, and we are his special care – let that sink in for a while. The power which birthed all creation; the power which broke the chains of death and raised Jesus to new life – that is the power which God exercises – for us, not against us - as he works all things together in fulfilling his purposes, creating a people for himself and preparing to dwell with us in the unimaginably wonderful life of the age to come. We are on the side of victory! We are in the hands of the Almighty God, and nothing can defeat his purposes or steal us from him.

Friends, let us pray for one another that we might indeed live in the knowledge of that power – confident that we are on the winning side, and that God will complete all his plans. Such knowledge equips us to stand firm as believers, no matter what is going on in the world, and to proclaim that God is sovereign, Christ is ruling at his right hand, and all shall be well.

Heavenly Father, we pray as Paul directs, giving thanks for all your goodness to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. We pray that we might know you better – living in loving relationship with you day by day.

We pray that we might be inspired by and confident in our future as your children, heading home to live with you forever. We pray that we might recognise in our Christian community the glorious and beautiful inheritance which is your delight – cherishing and building one another up.

And we pray that in all these things, we might be confident because it is your power at work, by your Spirit, which achieves all you purpose to do. We rejoice to rest in your incomparable power, devoted to our blessing and your glory.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

The following headings and suggestions are to help you pray for our church, our family, our world, and above all, to pray that God will build his kingdom. Please use them in any way that suits.

Organisations and Occasions – prayer prompts

Funerals

Pray for those who come to funeral services at Ness Bank, often it is on these occasions that people are moved to seek God for the first time, or to return to a long-abandoned faith.

Weekly Sunday Worship

Pray for all who come to worship week by week, and for our minister, Stuart, as he preaches and teaches us from God's living word. The Holy Spirit works as people listen, meditate, and open their lives to being changed.

Pray that we might truly become a family of believers, knowing and sharing one another's lives, and demonstrating God's love in action to our wider community.

Guild, Work Party, Crafties, Monthly Ladies' lunch

Pray for all who gather to share common interests, and to enjoy one another's company. As we open our hearts and lives to each other, God uses us to show His love, His compassion, and to teach us how to live for Him by faith.

Girls' and Boys' Brigade companies, Messy Church, Sunday School

These organisations exist to make Jesus known among our families and young people, and to make disciples who can serve and love Him. Their leaders need wisdom, strength and humour, and each and every child – and the family they represent – need Jesus.

Caring for Inverness... Foodstuff and Street Pastors

These organisations provide practical, loving care to some very vulnerable people in our town. The Foodstuff community includes paid staff, as well as volunteers; the staff and the Board members need wisdom in planning for the future, and strength and humour to tackle the everyday challenges of such service. Pray for the nurses, GP, CAB and other professionals who come week by week to provide practical care – for discernment and perseverance.

The Inverness Street Pastors go out both on Saturday nights, and also Wednesdays around midday, to minister to vulnerable and needy people on the streets, to show God's love and to help people in potentially dangerous situations to make good choices and stay safe. Elsewhere in the newsletter, there are specific points to pray over, but in particular we can pray for the new coordinator – Ross – as he settles into this crucial role.

Blythswood

This is about so much more than shoeboxes! An incredibly practical and far-reaching ministry, where again the leadership require wisdom in using their resources well. Their aim is to share God's love with some of the neediest people, through charity shops, shoeboxes and many practical ministries here in Scotland and overseas. We can pray that this will be the case, and that people will be drawn to faith in Jesus as they are met with love, compassion, and the gospel.

Scottish Bible Society

We believe that God reveals Himself to us through His Word, and so we pray for this word to be available, accessible, and for the Holy Spirit to speak through it. The Bible Society produce many resources to help people meet Jesus, from the 'Bibles for Bairns' initiative, to the youth editions of the gospels, and many others. We know for ourselves, that as we read, we hear God's voice, and encounter Jesus for ourselves – let's pray for that life-changing experience to be shared by many people in Scotland and around the world.

Pray too for the 'Healing the wounds of Trauma' course, which is run by trained leaders around Scotland – that it will reach those who most need and can benefit from it. For more information, go to

www.scottishbiblesociety.org/trauma-healing

Luwero Community Ministries, Uganda

The church in Uganda is growing – like its population – very fast, and needs good teachers and wise leaders to make disciples. We can give thanks to God for this wonderful demonstration of His power, and pray for our brothers and sisters that they will be kept safe from false teaching; strengthened in faith when they face trials; delivered from fear when they face danger. We can pray for Gabriel Kijambu and his wife Deborah as they lead the work at Luwero. Various building projects are underway to expand and improve the facilities, and they rejoiced recently in the news that the secondary school is performing well in national league tables.

The Pastors and Leaders conference in May was attended by around 600 people; pray that they will benefit deeply from the teaching as they go back to lead the hundreds of churches in that district. May God be glorified in the church in Uganda and around the world, as people witness to the transforming power of the gospel in their lives.

Delight yourselves in the Lord, yes, find your joy in him at all times. Have a reputation for gentleness, and never forget the nearness of your Lord.

Don't worry over anything whatever; tell God every detail of your needs in earnest and thankful prayer, and the peace of God, which transcends human understanding, will keep constant guard over your hearts and minds as they rest in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4.4-7; JB Phillips translation)