

Listen, observe, act – in step with God Prayers and Bible verses

Prayers

**Loving Lord,
we give thanks that you have prepared our way
and strengthen us at every stage with hope and resolve.**

God of unchanging power,
your Holy Spirit enables us
to proclaim your love
in challenging times and places.

Give to the members of Mothers' Union
steadfastness, fresh understanding and a clear vision,
that together, we may respond to the call to be your disciples
and so rejoice in the blessings of your kingdom.

**We ask this in the name of Him who gave His life
that ours might flourish,
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**



Jesus, you call to my heart once more:
“Leave anything that holds you back from deeper love.
Come follow me, again and again.”

Grant me courage to leave behind
whatever keeps me from you
and to trust you with my life.

May my heart’s connection with you
be so strong and true that I will daily risk
the road of following in your footsteps.

Keep me open to the adventure of life
where I meet you day by day.
Remind me often of my inner goodness.
Help me to believe that you look upon me with love.
Thank you for the call to be your disciple.
Amen

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Word of God
open the mouths of those
who are silent and afraid.
Give speech to those who have no voice.

Teach us to hear
the words beneath the silence.
Bear witness to the cries
that are the beginning of speech.

Open our ears to each other
so that when we listen and speak
we may recognise in our words
your Word and make it flesh.

Hondi Bracco;
Lifting Women's Voices: Canterbury Press; 2009

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As we journey together
in the footsteps of faith
may we never lose
our sense of direction,
keep eyes focussed
upon our destination,
drink from the well
and eat of the bread
that will bring us life,
and hold out our hand
to any who may falter
or stumble along the way.

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Bless our feet
that they might tread
the path prepared.
Bless our hands
that they might show
your love's embrace.
Bless our words
that they might share
your grace and peace.

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Remember all God has done.
Rejoice in all he is doing.
Receive all he shall yet do.
Put your hand in his,
the God of past, present and future,
and walk with him wherever he may lead,
knowing he will walk with you,
this day and always. Amen

Prayers for all Seasons 2; © Nick Fawcett 2001



**Loving Lord,
we thank you for the path laid before us
and that you accompany us on our journey.**

We pray for the flourishing of Mothers' Union
as we adapt for the needs of this present age
and entrust ourselves to God to lead us forward.

Give us open ears, eyes and hearts
that we may act with insight and integrity
to make a difference in our world.

**As we walk into the future with faith
may our pace be set by our perfect guide;
neither running ahead nor lagging behind,
but always in step with God. Amen**



We step into the future with Christ as our guide.
Where he leads we will follow;
where he pauses we will wait;
united together as pilgrims of God. Amen

Bible verses

The Lord makes firm the steps
of the one who delights in him.

Psalm 37:23



The road the righteous travel is like the sunrise,
getting brighter and brighter until daylight has come.
Proverbs 4:18

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Whether you turn to the right or to the left,
your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying,
“This is the way; walk in it.”

Isaiah 30:21

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For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,
plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

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Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Galatians 5:25

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May Jesus himself and God our Father, who reached out in love and surprised us with gifts of unending help and confidence, put a fresh heart in us, invigorate our work, enliven our speech. **Amen**

Based on 2 Thessalonians 2:16 (The Message)

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We pray that our God will make us fit for what he's called us to be, that he'll fill our good ideas and acts of faith with his own energy so that it all amounts to something.

As our lives honour the name of Jesus, may he honour us, by the grace of God. **Amen**

Based on 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 (The Message)

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Let everyone be quick to hear (be a careful, thoughtful listener), slow to speak (a speaker of carefully chosen words), and slow to anger (patient, reflective, forgiving).

James 1:19 (AMP)