

Bible Readings for February

The bible readings and prayers for February are based around love – God’s love for us and our loving response to others.

Saturday **February 1st: 1 John 4:7-21**

Praise God for the depth of his love and for the example of Jesus revealing it. Pray for the Christian church, throughout the world, that it may continue to seek to share this love with as many as possible.

Week 1 - God’s love for us

SUNDAY **February 2nd: Psalm 139**

Thank God that he knows each of us inside and out. Pray for the courage to trust more in his love.

Monday **February 3rd: Jeremiah 29:10-14**

Part of God’s love for us is that he has plans for our future, just as he did for the Israelites in Babylon. Pray for the Kirk Session who meet this evening and consider plans for the new centre, that they might be able to discern God’s guidance.

Tuesday **February 4th: Luke 18:15-17**

God considers us all to be his children. Pray for the humility to accept his direction and love as a Father figure.

Wednesday **February 5th: Romans 5:8-9**

Thank God that his love was so deep for each of us that he was prepared to forgive us and demonstrated it by sending Jesus Christ to die for us.

Thursday **February 6th: Romans 8:38-39**

Paul writes confidently that nothing can separate us from God’s love. Pray today for those who feel they are unworthy to come to church to learn more about God, that they may come to know more of his love.

Friday **February 7th: John 16:5-16**

God demonstrated his love by sending the Holy Spirit to enable us to know more of Him. Pray for the work of the Spirit in our lives and in our community this month.

Saturday **February 8th: Zephaniah 3:14-17**

Spend some quiet time today enjoying the idea that God takes great delight in you.

Week 2 - Loving Others

SUNDAY **February 9th: Psalm 36**

Thank God for his unfailing love. Pray for an opportunity to share something of that love with another or others this coming week.

Monday February 10th: Mark 12:28-34

Although it's a familiar passage, it's a difficult command to follow! Pray for strength to love our neighbours as we would love ourselves and wisdom to understand what "as we would love ourselves" means practically and prayerfully.

Tuesday February 11th: 2 Timothy 3:1-5

We face all sorts of temptations every day. Pray for strength not to put your trust in those attractions and to recognise instead the freedom and contentment of trusting in and loving God.

Wednesday February 12th: Matthew 5:38-48

In this passage Jesus describes an incredibly high standard! Pray for support from God and from one another to attempt to follow his word.

Thursday February 13th: Ephesians 4:1-6

Pray for the continuing reforms within the church, that we, as a church, may be united in our mission to share God's love and open to working together to understand how best to do it.

Saturday February 14th: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

On Valentines' Day, instead of chocolates and roses, give thanks for the witness of the saint who lost his life for his faith and in protecting Christians showed many of the characteristics that this bible passage describes about love.

Week 3 - Loving our families, friends and community

SUNDAY February 15th: Matthew 28:18-20

In the great commission Jesus commanded his followers to teach others to observe his commands. Pray therefore to share his love with those we meet.

Monday February 16th: Psalm 133

Thank God for the joy of families and friendships. Pray that where there is division peacemakers and solutions are found creating a new understanding.

Tuesday February 17th: Genesis 37

If you have them, thank God for the joy and sometimes challenge of siblings over the years. Pray for patience and a deeper understanding of their needs, praying that they too will recognise your own.

Wednesday February 18th: Mark 5:21-43

Pray for families that you know in this community or further afield who are going through challenging times as loved ones are sick, waiting for tests and working through treatment. Pray that the love they share will sustain them and the support of friends, neighbours and the skill of medical professionals will uphold them.

Thursday February 19th: Luke 15:11-32

Pray especially today for parents as they juggle their many responsibilities, that they may still be able to find quality time to spend with their children and may find patience and the capacity to forgive when necessary.

Friday **February 20th: Leviticus 19:33-34**

Pray for all those who have come to the UK as refugees, fleeing war and violence. Pray that they may feel safe and welcome in our communities, without the fear of oppressive regimes or gangs.

Saturday **February 21st: Ephesians 2:19-22**

Thank God for the love and friendship we share in Wellesley as a church family. Pray for that spirit to continue to grow as we wait to welcome many through our doors when the new centre opens.

Week 4 – Loving our World

SUNDAY **February 22nd: Colossians 3:12-15**

Pray for opportunities to demonstrate compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience to others in our communities in the coming week.

Monday **February 23rd: Psalm 104**

Praise God for the love he has lavished on the creation of the earth and the wonder of its diversity and variety.

Tuesday **February 24th: Genesis 11:8-17**

Thank God for his promise not to destroy the earth. Pray for world leaders that they would handle environmental concerns with wisdom and integrity.

Wednesday **February 25th: Psalm 46**

Pray for the power of God to bring peace on earth this year.

Thursday **February 26th: John 3:16-21**

At the start of Lent pray we may remember the power of Jesus' love in his sacrifice for each one of us and resolve to spend some time in the next 40 days deepening our faith and understanding in and of Him.

Friday **February 27th: Isaiah 65:17-19**

Pray for all are in positions of authority, locally and nationally. Pray that they may have a vision of a fairer and more just society where all feel welcome and included.

Saturday **February 28th: Mark 4:3-8**

Pray for all those who campaign and work to highlight the damage done to the world's climate and seek to preserve its existence, that they may have the wisdom and knowledge to be discern the truth amongst so many differing opinions.

SUNDAY **February 29th: Genesis 22:1-18**

Today is the "extra" day that only happens every 4 years! Ask God to show you where he might be calling you to take a leap of faith as Abraham did in our reading.