

A 7-Day Hospice and End-of-Life Reading Pack

For families sitting with someone who is dying, and for the patient themselves.

KJV scriptures to read aloud at a bedside — peace, God's nearness, and the hope of the life to come.

How to use this pack

- Read aloud at the bedside; hearing is often the last sense to go.
- The prompts can be answered by the family when the patient cannot.
- Chaplains and hospice volunteers may reprint this freely.

The seven days

Day 1 — Fear no evil · Psalm 23:4

Day 2 — Words that need saying · John 14:1-3

Day 3 — Peace, not fixing · 2 Corinthians 5:8

Day 4 — The patient's wishes · Psalm 116:15

Day 5 — Exhaustion of the family · Revelation 21:4

Day 6 — Hope of resurrection · Romans 8:38-39

Day 7 — A blessing at the end · Isaiah 41:10

There comes a point where treatment stops and presence is all that is left. Reading Scripture aloud at a bedside is one of the oldest Christian practices, and hearing is generally the last sense to go. These King James verses are chosen to be read slowly, in a low voice, to someone who may not respond. Family members can read them in turns. Chaplains and hospice volunteers are welcome to print and use them freely.

Fear no evil

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me.*

Psalm 23:4 (KJV)

The passage most often asked for

Devotion prompt

Psalm 23 is read at deathbeds because it says through, not around. What does 'thou art with me' mean in this room?

Write your answer

Pray it back to God before you close the page.

Words that need saying

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions... I go to prepare a place for you.

John 14:1-3 (KJV)

Christ's own words about what comes next

Devotion prompt

The four sentences that matter: thank you, I forgive you, forgive me, I love you. Which one is still unsaid?

Write your answer

Pray it back to God before you close the page.

Peace, not fixing

We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:8 (KJV)

Absent from the body, present with the Lord

Devotion prompt

What are you still trying to fix that cannot be fixed? What would it be to simply be present instead?

Write your answer

Pray it back to God before you close the page.

The patient's wishes

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

Psalm 116:15 (KJV)

God is not indifferent to this hour

Devotion prompt

What has the person said they want — music, silence, visitors, Scripture? Honour it, not your own preference.

Write your answer

Pray it back to God before you close the page.

Exhaustion of the family

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying.

Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

The end of pain

Devotion prompt

Who is carrying the most, and who will relieve them tonight?

Write your answer

Pray it back to God before you close the page.

Hope of resurrection

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life... shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39 (KJV)

Nothing separates, not even this

Devotion prompt

What do you believe happens next? Say it plainly at the bedside if it would help.

Write your answer

Pray it back to God before you close the page.

A blessing at the end

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God.

Isaiah 41:10 (KJV)

For fear in the night hours

Devotion prompt

Choose the verse and the words you want spoken at the last. Write them out so you are not searching in the moment.

Write your answer

Pray it back to God before you close the page.

More verses for this season

Keep this page for cards, texts, and the days when you need different words.

Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.

Luke 23:46 (KJV)

A prayer to pray on someone's behalf

The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee... and give thee peace.

Numbers 6:24-26 (KJV)

A blessing to speak over the bed

A prayer for this season

Lord Jesus, you have been through death and out the other side. Give peace in this room, gentleness at the end, and hope to everyone left in it. Amen.

Practical ways to use these verses

- Read slowly and repeat the same few passages rather than covering many — familiarity comforts more than variety.
- Psalm 23 and John 14 are the two most requested; know where they are without searching.
- Close each visit with Numbers 6:24-26 spoken as a blessing, then silence.

Notes and prayer requests

Read the full collection, with every verse in context, at biblesundays.com/life-events/hospice-end-of-life-verses — free KJV verse collections, printables, and reading plans for every season of life. Free to print and share; please keep this page attached.