

1. Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
2. Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.
3. Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.
4. God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our hearts and minds may be opened. Amen.
5. Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voices but your own, so that we may hear your Word and also do it; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
6. Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded. Amen.
7. Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.
8. Since we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth, Holy God, make us hunger for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.
9. Living God, help us to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
10. Blessed Lord, grant us to hear and inwardly digest your holy scriptures that we may embrace and ever hold fast to the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

11. God of knowledge and power, we pause again this day to hear you speak to us through the words of your ancient texts; words that are ever new. May our hearts be open to hear your words that our lives may be transformed through the power of your Holy Spirit. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.
12. Loving God, who reaches out to restore our souls, touch us now with your word of truth. May the familiar phrases of Scripture draw us back into a vital relationship with you and each other. Lead us into paths of righteousness that we may show your love in conversations and actions. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.
13. Lead us, O God, to the bounty of your word. And when we encounter all you have in store for us, may we die to our old ways that we may live the new life you have planned for us. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.
14. We who claim to be your people, O God, turn to your Word this day. As we listen, may we discover the bread you provide and share it. Teach us how to live life faithfully, that all may live abundantly. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.
15. O God, open our understanding of the Scriptures. Help us to see the possibilities you set before us as your children when we turn from our lies and live by your truth. Strengthen our faith and our love. Through Christ we pray. Amen.
16. Empty us, Great God, of all that prevents us from hearing what you want us to hear. Empty us of our preconceptions, our preoccupations and our prejudices. Empty us that we might be filled with your Spirit and your Word. Empty us that we might be filled for ministry and mission. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.