

Life is precious to God and every life matters to Him. We are divine image bearers, created equally where each life is of value from the beginning through to the end of life (Genesis 1:27).

Below, you will find passages and prompts to support you as you pray for this issue and respective proposals in Westminster and Holyrood. They can be used in both private and public times of prayer. As we pray these prayers, it is our hope that they will be used by the Lord to shape the outcome of the upcoming votes, and also to shape our hearts into His likeness, making us people who together seek the good of our neighbour and the spread of the gospel in this nation.

## For the vulnerable in society

For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. (Psalm 72:12–13)



- Pray for a revival of compassion in our society, that we would prioritise caring for the sick instead of seeking to help them end their lives.
- Pray for the elderly in our churches and local care homes, that they would know community. Pray also that the chains of isolation would be broken and a sense of fear gone in Jesus' name.
- Pray that those living with a disability would be able to access support in the community that enables them to live a full and fulfilled life.
- Pray for women in abusive relationships vulnerable to assisted suicide becoming law. Pray they would have routes of escape from violent relationships, either through a local refuge, the church or extended family.
- Pray for ethnic minority communities who are fearful that assisted suicide becoming law would limit choice and access to care. Pray trust between them and clinicians would grow and access to end-of-life palliative care provision significantly improves in this nation.
- Pray for family members who give of their time and resources to care for loved ones who are unwell or long-term sick. Pray for renewed strength, comfort and a supportive community to care for them as they care for others.



# For those in politics

Let everyone be subject to governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. (Romans 13:1)

- Pray politicians would seek to do the will of the Lord on this issue. Pray
  specifically that hearts would be turned away from supporting these bills
  and instead focused on improving end-of-life and palliative care services in
  the community.
- Give thanks for those politicians across all parties who have spoken out against these bills. Pray they would find the courage to speak with other parliamentarians about the harms in legalising assisted suicide.
- Pray boldness for Christian politicians as they stand to give speeches in the
  debate. Pray the words they speak would come from the heart of God,
  exposing the lies of autonomy around these bills and bring truth to this
  issue.
- Political leaders wield significant influence and authority. Pray for prime minister Keir Starmer, health and social care secretary of state Wes Streeting, first minister of Scotland John Swinney and cabinet secretary for health and social care in Scotland Neil Gray. Pray that they would yield earthly power, encounter Christ and surrender to His sovereignty and will.

  Assisted suicide prayer points



# For the health and social care sector

I have seen their ways, but I will heal them; I will guide them and restore comfort to Israel's mourners, creating praise on their lips. Peace, peace, to those far and near, says the LORD. "And I will heal them." (Isaiah 57:18–19)

- The health and social care sector has been fundamentally shaped by Christian values and the truth of scripture. Pray our health and social care services would continue to be a service of care, not of death.
- Pray for the spiritual and mental wellbeing of nurses, doctors and palliative care specialists who are working long hours and in pressured situations.
- Give thanks for the Association of Palliative Medicine and their courage to speak out against Kim Leadbeater's bill during committee stage. Pray their concerns would be heard by those politicians undecided in how to vote.

### For Christians in care

I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.
(Matthew 25:36)

- Give thanks for Christians leading hospice care and care homes across this nation. Pray for the long-term funding of hospice care in the community.
- Bring before the Lord the local hospice and care home in your community. Ask the Lord to provide for the staff and residents. Ask the Lord to impart wisdom and prophetic insight in how to lead the hospice in the coming years.

The Lord sustains them on their sickbed and restores them from their bed of illness. (Psalm 41:3)





- Pray against proposals that demand assisted suicide be carried out in hospices and care homes.
- Pray doctors and all those in caring professions that they would be equipped and supported in their work.
- Give thanks to the many Christian medics, clinicians and social care
  practitioners who have met with MSPs and MPs to warn them about the
  harms in legalising assisted suicide. Their voice has been heard at the
  highest level of political leadership. May their conversations prove fruitful in
  the upcoming votes.

#### And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (Revelation 21:3–4)



176 Copenhagen Street, London, N1 0ST T 020 7520 3830 | E info@eauk.org | W eauk.org

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