Bradford North Prayer Column: February 2026

Jesus calls us!

O'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea, day by day his voice is sounding, saying "Christian, follow me." Christians, those who have come to believe in Jesus as Saviour and have received his forgiveness, are daily called to follow him as Lord: to do what he says; go where he calls; and be more like him – with the help of the Holy Spirit. But how well to we listen, considering the racket of competing noise in our lives: eg, the world with its clamour; family demanding attention; even church with its jobs to keep things running? To all these we may see it as our duty to get involved, for good causes come in many guises, but the question is, do they help or hinder us from hearing the Lord's daily call to us as Christians to follow him, loving him more than all rivals for our loyalty?

How should we listen? Alert for his voice as if we were expecting it and eager to hear. Possibly setting aside a special listening time, as may suit our daily rhythms. Perhaps also lifting our attention to God by reading or listening to the Bible, or hymns, etc. And not least with a conscious willingness to do what he says when we sense his call.

How can we know it's the Lord's call? At least it must not be contrary to his written word in the Bible, and it may be good to seek confirmation from good Christian friends we trust well enough to share thoughts with. It may well come with its own confirmation of inner peace, especially when we pray about it. And with time we get to know a friend's voice.

Roy Lorrain-Smith

A prayer for each week

Lord, we praise you for the blessed gift of speech and language, and we ask that what we say may always be worthy of our calling to follow Jesus. Amen.

Lord, thank you for ears, both the outer to hear speech, and the inner to sense your loving voice, calling us to speak and act in that love to others. Amen.

Lord, we praise you for your truth, both in your words and in the life of Jesus. Please help us to live by your truth, trusting it and following it. Amen.

Lord we praise you for Jesus' integrity in words and actions, seamless like his robe. May we live whole and wholesome lives, for you and with you. Amen.

Your own prayers