

Praying Through Hebrews 7:1-3 & 18-28

Dear God, we thank You that righteousness and peace are so important to You that Abraham gave a gift to Melchizedek, which would help Melchizedek promote righteousness and peace in his Kingdom and among his neighbors. We also thank You for the example of Melchizedek, who blessed Abraham for restoring righteousness and peace after Abraham pursued and defeated the evil kings who had attacked them. We thank You for arranging far in advance the coming of Your Son, Jesus the Messiah, the One Melchizedek resembled. By our gifts and lives of service to Jesus, we will follow the example of Abraham who gave a tenth to Melchizedek.

Heavenly Father, before You gave Your laws and regulations to us through Moses, You knew that they were too weak to make us perfect, but we thank You that You gave them to point us to Jesus and our need to place our faith in Him. We believe in Jesus and we trust that He will do for us what the Old Covenant could not do. Thank You for making a better Covenant with us when Jesus died for us. Thank You for making Jesus our perfect High Priest forever, because we know that He will meet all of our real needs. Help us to remain loyal and faithful to Jesus and Your perfect plan of salvation. Help us share the good news of Jesus and Your plan of salvation with others by our words and example.

Lord Jesus, in this life, we are still prone to not loving and serving You and others as we ought according to the law of love. Forgive us as You have promised. Because You died a sacrificial death for us to forgive us for our sins, we trust that You will continue to forgive us when we repent and return to following You. Thank You for always interceding for us so You can save us completely. We trust completely in You and in Your Name. Come Lord Jesus. Amen.

Please Note: I first learned about “Praying Through the Bible” from Edith Schaeffer, the wife of Francis Schaeffer. You might like to close your class with the above prayer as a way of beginning to teach your class how they too can pray through the Bible. First, you might like to teach your class how to pray through the *International Bible Lessons* each week. [Perhaps some of them would learn how to pray through portions of the Bible during their daily Bible reading and quiet time.] Second, a week in advance, perhaps some of your students would like to write their own “Prayer Through the Bible” using the *International Bible Lesson* scripture text and read their prayer at the close of class. Third, eventually, your students will be able to pray through the Bible without needing to write their prayer in advance before they pray at the end of class. If you would like to learn more about prayer from Edith Schaeffer, read [How God Teaches Us to Pray](#): Lessons from the Lives of Francis and Edith Schaeffer, Kindle Edition, by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.