Praying Through Psalms 104:1-4 & 24-30 International Bible Lesson L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

O Lord, we praise You with our hearts and minds this day, because You are worthy of praise and adoration. You have given us life and light so we can walk according to Your good purposes as revealed in the Bible and understood through Your Spirit. We do not have wisdom or words to express Your greatness and all You mean to us. We cannot begin to comprehend Your splendor and majesty, but we bless Your Holy Name.

Thank You for revealing the truth about Yourself in faithfulness to us. Even though we cannot understand all the truth about You today, we trust that You will increase our comprehension of You and Your glory day by day as we look to You and the Scriptures with confidence and commitment to follow You more closely the more we learn about You and from You.

Lord God, You can use all of creation to achieve Your will and reveal more of Your majesty to us. We see Your wisdom in all Your works. Along with all Your creatures, we depend on You to meet all our needs. In You, we find our satisfaction as You lavish Your good gifts upon us. Send Your Spirit to us and create in us clean hearts and minds so we can bring joy to You by all we say and do. Renew our lives and everything around us that all peoples

may bow down to You as the One true God. In Jesus' Name, we pray. 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 <u>How God Teaches Us to Pray</u>: Lessons from the Lives of Francis and Edith Schaeffer, Kindle Edition, by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.