

Praying Through Psalms 148:1-14
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Lord Jesus, we praise You this day and every day for creating the beautiful heavens and earth, for creating us in Your image, and for living and dying and rising again to save us from our sins. Lord Jesus, we would join with all the angels in heaven in praising You and we pray that Your will might be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Dear Father, we would understand better how You have designed all creation to praise You: the sun, the moon, and the shining stars. Thank You for creating the universe and we ourselves. Thank You for decreeing that by your grace through faith in Jesus Christ we might live for ever and ever with You and all who love You and praise Your Name.

Dear Father thank You for creating a world with beauty, complexity, and never ending interest that inspires our praise of You. The oceans, the mountains, the clouds in the sky, and all the creatures that inhabit the earth fill us with wonder and joy over all You have done for us to make our lives meaningful and purposeful upon the earth and then to the highest heavens. Thank You for creating a world that meets all our needs. Thank You for speaking to us in the Bible to point us to the One Source that will meet all of our spiritual needs – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Thank You for welcoming into Your family all those who will trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

O God, help us exalt You in words and deeds that reflect our true devotion to You and that will lead others to love and praise You too. Draw us close to Your loving heart and give us a heart that loves to draw close to You – for Jesus' sake. 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.