Praying Through Psalms 65:1-13 International Bible Lesson L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

O Lord, we wait with others to worship You with eagerness and joyful anticipation. We praise You in the fulfillment of our vows and to show others that You are first place in our lives.

Father, we thank You for hearing and answering our prayers, and all people will come to You when they learn that You will forgive all their transgressions and hear their prayers. Lord Jesus, we thank You for dying on the cross for us to make our forgiveness by God justly possible. Otherwise, we would be overwhelmed by our sins and unable to come before the face of God. Thank You for dying in our place and rising again to bring us near to the heart of God. Thank you for encouraging us to come in Your Name into the presence of God.

Dear God, we praise You for answering our prayers with awesome deeds that are also righteous deeds. Your most awesome and righteous deeds in our behalf include sending Your Son into the world so we could believe in Him and receive the gift of eternal life. Indeed, You are our Savior and Your Holy Spirit leads us daily in the way of salvation.

Oh God, we praise You joyfully today because You deserve all praise and all glory from all that You created. You created the mountains and the seas, the land and the water, the grain we sow for crops, the flocks that help us meet all our needs. We praise You morning and evening with songs of joy. Help us to share the good news about You with all the nations of the earth that many might believe and find peace in You, for the love you deserve from all. 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.