

Praying Through Judges 4:1-10
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Dear Heavenly Father, lead us by Your Spirit, teach us through Your Word, and help us with Your Power so it can never be said of us, “Again they did evil in the eyes of the Lord.” If You have needed to put our lives into the hands of our enemies in the past, may we never need that discipline again. And if we are now suffering at the hands of our enemies, we are now calling out to you for help! Help us achieve all Your purposes during this time of testing. Help us do everything we can to help our nation become a righteous nation, with more and more people coming to know and obey Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. And if we must suffer because our nation or our people have turned away from You to follow and promote unrighteous ways, help us know and do Your will with the courage You give us in spite of all opposition.

Lord Jesus, many are more powerful than we are, especially our spiritual enemies and the many temptations that come before us from the world and our own flesh, but Your presence and power within us are greater than them all. We depend on and trust entirely in You to help us overcome all our enemies and temptations. If we cannot be leaders in Your Name to promote Your plans and purposes, then send us the leaders we need and help us discern the right leaders from the wrong leaders that we might follow You and do Your will only. Give us good judges who will discern right from wrong and have the courage to uphold the right in all their decisions. Inspire

them and us to study and pray through Your Word so we can know and do that which is truly just and merciful according to Your leading. If we are called to fight for Your people, may we be led to do so only if You can fight with us and not against us. Grant us the ability to discern and do Your Will in all situations so You will be honored and glorified through all we say and do. Help us find the help we need so there is no delay in our obedience and the accomplishment of Your purposes. In Your 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 [How God Teaches Us to Pray](#): Lessons from the Lives of Francis and Edith Schaeffer, Kindle Edition, by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.