Praying Through Judges 6:11-18 International Bible Lesson

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Lord God, we praise You today with thanksgiving that we can join with the heavenly host of angels to glorify Your Name. Thank You for sending angels to earth to help Your people fulfill Your mission for them. Thank You for the glimpses You have given to us of their work through the pages of the Bible. We seek no angel visitations, but we seek to serve You with all the power and resources you choose to give us according to the Scriptures. If indeed You send an angel to us, may we have the wisdom from the Scriptures and the spiritual discernment to know and obey all Your commands and only Your commands. May we not be misled to believe anything contrary to the Scriptures.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for choosing people to serve You from a variety of backgrounds. Rich or poor. Strong or weak. Young or old. Thank You for Your Word of Truth, the Bible, that constantly reminds us of Your presence with us and promises to be with us always. By Your Spirit, open Your Word to us as we study the Scriptures so we have the assurance that we can be mighty warriors in Your Kingdom when called to be so in prayer and in other ways. Help us study Your Word faithfully so we will be prepared to teach by example and do all Your commands. Thank You for the assurance in the Scriptures that You have never and will never abandon us or forsake us. Furthermore, we know from Your acts in history that You have the power to accomplish all Your purposes.

Heavenly Father, use us as we grow in our knowledge of You and the Scriptures so we can be instruments of your peace and salvation in behalf of others. We may be fearful and weak today, but give us all the wisdom, strength, and resources we need to fulfill every task You set before us. May all the offerings we bring to you demonstrate our love and devotion to serve only You always. 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 How God Teaches Us to Pray: Lessons from the Lives of Francis and Edith Schaeffer, Kindle Edition, by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.