

Praying Through Genesis 8:20-22 & 9:8-17
International Bible Lesson
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LORD God, we praise and thank You that by Your grace Noah was a righteous man who believed in and trusted in You and Your word. Indeed, by faith in You he built an ark and saved his family and a selection of clean and unclean animals and birds. LORD God, please work in our lives so we too can be people of faith who by Your grace will trust and obey Your Word. Grant us a spirit of thanksgiving for the wonders You work in our lives daily, and may we joyfully sacrifice to express our love for You and serve You each day.

LORD God, though humans incline toward evil, by Your grace and through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior You have made us into a new creation. You have turned us from slavery to Satan, sin, selfishness, and self-centeredness toward freedom to live for You that we do not take for granted. You have given us the opportunity to be God-centered and helpful to others. We trust in Your many promises in the Bible and rejoice when we can bring gladness to Your heart.

LORD God, we praise You for creating and reclaiming the earth so we know that there will be seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, as long as the earth endures. Indeed, everything we do depends on Your faithfulness to keep the universe on its course. Whether people acknowledge You or not, all human creativity depends on our ability to trust in the natural laws of cause and effect that You established in Your creation. Help us daily so we do not break the moral laws that also have certain consequences and that eventually led to the great flood.

LORD God, thank You for establishing a covenant with Noah and his descendants, which includes us today. Thank You for promising that a flood will never destroy the earth again, and we know that You remain the Sovereign Lord and Just Judge of the universe and every human being. Help us live so we never give You a reason to discipline us to bring us back to obedient trust in You. 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.