

Praying Through
Psalms 34:1-10 & Hebrews 2:17-18
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Heavenly Father, fear can influence us to do some crazy things: David fled from King Saul without thinking of taking food to eat and a sword to defend himself. Later, he pretended to be insane when he feared the Philistines in Gath might kill him for having the reputation of being a mighty warrior. Then, David reminded himself to extol You *at all times*, and You delivered him from all his fears. Please help us remember to magnify You *at all times*. Awaken us in the morning with praises of You in our hearts and in our thoughts, if not also on our lips. As we glorify You, please help the afflicted hear about You and rejoice. As we pray, please help us remember what a great and wonderful, loving and merciful, just and forgiving God You are as revealed in the Bible. By our example, may others be inspired to join with us in praising You and Your glory and power.

Father, we pray that Your Holy Spirit would draw us toward You and help us see that You are and have the answer to all our fears: all wisdom and deliverance comes from You. When “bad things” happen to us and those we love, help us recall the Scriptures and give us hope; remind us and them that You love us and You will work out all things for good. Help us pray rightly, so we and others might rightly join in working with You and have the wisdom to overcome evil so good can prevail. Save all who

call upon You. Please send Your angels among us, into our homes, and to go with us wherever we go so they can deliver us from evil and those who would harm us and our families in any way. 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.