

Psalms 66:1-20
International Bible Lesson Prayer

Heavenly Father and Lord Jesus, we know that You deserve all the praise, glory, and honor that we and all creation should give You with shouts of joy. But we confess that we too often reserve our expressions of joyful shouting for worldly achievements. Though we may feel too inadequate to make a joyful noise or shout for joy to You, we do pray that our hearts' love for You would find expression in how we pray, worship, and seek to serve You and others. You deserve glorious praise from us, and we pray for Your help to express the praise You deserve in words from our mouths—please help us glorify and worship You in Spirit and Truth.

O Father, Your deeds are awesome—especially when we think of Your gifts to us through our Savior Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. We could not worship You and sing praises to You if You had not sent Jesus to forgive us for our sins, cleanse us from our sins, and give us the hope of living right with You forever. Through the Holy Spirit, please help us to always be aware of Your presence with us and within us and grateful for all You have done and do for us. Please help us share the good news about Jesus Christ with others, that many who do not know You will come to sing Your praises. We thank You for saving Your people from slavery to Satan, sin, and death. We would not cherish iniquity in our hearts, so please deliver us from all unrighteousness. Throughout all the nations on earth, please continue to deliver Your people from all evil, grant them peace and the assurance of Your steadfast loving presence forever. 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.

International Bible Lesson Prayers are available at InternationalBibleLessons.org
— © Copyright 2019 by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr. Permission Granted for Not for Profit Use.