Psalms 91:1-16 International Bible Lesson Prayer

O God, we thank You for Your many and precious promises in the Bible. Thank You for the protection You provide us in a world that is often hostile toward Your people. We flee to You as our shelter. Please help us dwell in You and live according to Your ways always. Help us live and remain under the shadow of Your protection so we do not stray. If we must be tested or if we must suffer for Your Name's sake, please continue to protect us spiritually so we would not sin against You and prove faithless. We pray that Your Holy Spirit would draw us ever closer to You and guide us daily in thought, word, and deed. O Lord, You are our refuge and fortress, and as we put on the whole spiritual armor You have given us by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, we would remember Your faithfulness. We thank You for the many times You have saved us from destruction and disaster, for Your people face many enemies. Deliver us from fear of our enemies and make our faith stronger whenever we face those who would attack us whether physically, mentally, or spiritually.

Lord, we praise You for offering us a place of refuge in You, and by Your saving grace we have made You our dwelling place. Perhaps unknown to us, many times You have commanded Your angels to guard us in all our ways and protect us. Help us live in righteousness and peace. We look forward to the coming of Your Kingdom in all its fullness on earth; so, by governing all nations, all Your people will live in harmony under Your Almighty Hand. Please rescue us, honor us, and show us Your salvation whenever we call upon You for deliverance. 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.