

## Matthew 10:1-15

### International Bible Lesson Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for coming into our world to make all things new and to transform Your children into Your good and faithful servants. We love You for all the love, goodness, and mercy that You have shown us. Thank You for calling twelve men to learn from You and of You as the King of kings, as the promised Messiah, as our Lord and Savior. Thank You for leading and teaching Your apostles Your ways so they could carry on Your work faithfully after You ascended into heaven. Thank You for preparing and calling them to serve as Your apostles, as Your ambassadors, as Your representatives on the earth. Thank You for insuring that what You and they taught on earth was faithfully preserved in the Bible for us to study and teach others. Thank You for showing us how Church leaders should be carefully trained and prepared before they are set apart by the Church to represent You and Your teachings in a world that so desperately needs to be set free from deception, evil, and sin. You have shown how Your gospel and Your Spirit can transform ordinary men and women with a variety of backgrounds into Christians who can work together in love for You and one another; so, we pray that You would transform us into Your image and give us work to do from hearts of love. As we study the Bible, we pray that we too will know the life-transforming truths and way of life that You shared with all those You met on earth. We pray that Your Spirit would make Biblical truths and a Biblical way of life real to us as we seek to obey all that You are teaching us. Please increase our faith in and love for You each day. Empower us to love others and show others how much You love them by the way we speak and live as Your followers. 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.