

Matthew 28:16-20 & Acts 1:6-8

International Bible Lesson Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your lovingkindness and patience with Jesus' disciples and with us—that while we were still sinners Your Son, Jesus Christ, died for us. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for doing all that was necessary to convince Your disciples that You had indeed risen from the dead, and we glorify You for convincing them to go to Galilee to meet You on the mountain and receive the Great Commission that we try to follow even today. Thank You for leading them and us from doubt to faith and from fear of others to obeying Your commands and witnessing for You not matter what the cost. Please help us become more like Your first disciples and increase our faith daily as You remain an ever-present help in living the Christ-like life before a watching world.

Lord Jesus, we joyfully worship You as the Son of God both because of who You are and because our Heavenly Father has given You all authority in heaven and on earth—You deserve our praise and loyalty forevermore. Please anoint and fill us with Your Holy Spirit that we might have the courage, power, and wisdom to obey everything that You have commanded and teach others to do the same. We do depend on You and Your presence with us throughout the day and every day. Please help us serve You and others as good and faithful witnesses to Your forgiveness, redeeming love, and transforming grace. 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
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