

Praying Through Luke 1:39-56

Heavenly Father, thank You for loving and caring for all Your children. Thank You for John the Baptist and Jesus the Messiah who would grow up and bring many to repentance and faith. Thank You for the message and sacrifice of Jesus that brings many to righteousness, and creates families of faith; such as, those of John and Jesus.

Father, we praise You for what You do in and for Your children in the womb of their mothers. When we think of John the Baptist, who was filled with the Holy Spirit in the womb, and of Jesus, who was fully God and fully man in the womb, we rejoice in knowing that You have given every unborn child potential to live as Your faithful servants.

Lord Jesus, help us to believe all Your promises in the Bible and trust in You completely. Help us to trust that You will come again as You promised, even as You came into the world many centuries ago to save us from our sins. We glorify Your Name in all the earth and rejoice in Your saving grace and mercy.

Lord Jesus, help us remain humble in our service of You. Help us teach others about Your mercy and Your invitation to save all who will reverence Your Holy Name as their Savior and Lord. Help us understand the truth and power of Your Word, especially as we seek to teach the Scriptures.

O God, we look forward to and pray for the time when You will once again scatter the proud and bring down the thrones of all who oppose Your rule and Your Kingdom on earth.

Lord Jesus, in mercy and forgiveness, save all Your children in the days ahead — even during the days and nights that may be difficult and dangerous for all who trust in You and Your righteous rule. For Your Name's sake. 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.