

Praying Through 1 John 4:7-19
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Dear Heavenly Father, help me love others as You have loved me, for love comes from You and I want to share Your love with others. Father, I thank You for revealing Your love to me through Jesus, Your one and only Son, so by grace through faith I have been born again and know You. Lord, many do not know You and do not love, and we see their lack of knowledge and love on display in the world. Help me share with others the good news of Your love and truth manifested in Jesus that many might come to know and love You and one another.

Lord Jesus, thank You for becoming the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Thank You for Your perfect obedience to our Heavenly Father and for coming into the world to be the Savior of the world. Help all who trust in You to love one another, since You have loved us so much – even dying on the cross for us in our place.

Holy Spirit of God, help me glorify God before the world as You live in me and I live in You. I know and trust in the love God has for all who acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God, and I pray that the love of God may be perfect in all believers through Your loving presence in our lives. Help us look like Jesus before the world because You have made us like Jesus in thought, word, and deed. With your perfect love drive out all fear of punishment in the lives of those who love and trust in Jesus, so we can be made perfect in love for Jesus' sake and for the sake of those who need to know Him and love as He loves. 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.