

Praying Through 1 Corinthians 11:20-34

International Bible Lesson

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Lord Jesus, help us be sensitive to and concerned about the feelings and true needs of other people. Help us refrain from being so selfish and self-centered that we try to go ahead of others in ways that humiliate them and make them suffer.

Lord Jesus, thank You for enacting a new covenant in Your blood on the very night when one of Your disciples betrayed You. We praise and honor You for the suffering and sacrificial death that You chose to endure for the forgiveness of our sins. Whenever we eat of the bread and drink of the cup, we pray that the Holy Spirit would remind us of all You have done and continue to do for us. By Your Word of Truth, the Bible, and by the Holy Spirit help us examine ourselves according to the purposes and standards that You have established for Your holy people. You told Your disciples to teach us everything that You have commanded. Grant us discernment and wisdom so we will rightly apply Your teachings to the way we live daily and to the daily decisions we must make. Help us treat others as You would have us treat them and as we ourselves would like to be treated. As we prayerfully evaluate our lives and examine our behavior during the celebration of the Lord's Supper, help us turn from everything that would displease You and harm others. Show us where we might have wronged others even unknowingly, help us pray for them and the healing they might need because of anything we might have said or done. If possible, show us how we can make amends and restore right relationships with those we have harmed. As we partake of the Lord's Supper, and ask You to forgive us for all our sins, please help us turn from all bitterness and unforgiveness so we will forgive those who have harmed us; indeed, help us to pray for Your loving guidance to help our enemies come to bow before You in repentance and faith. As we learn new truths and remember old truths from the Bible, help us share these truths in the right way with all those who need to hear them. In Jesus' 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.