

Praying Through Jeremiah 31:27-37
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

LORD God, we glorify and praise You for keeping Your promises to Your people as revealed in the Scriptures. Though we wait for some of Your promises to be completely fulfilled, You have fulfilled so many of them that we know You will fulfill them all. We do wait for the coming days when You will restore the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, and make all things right once again, and the existence of the nation of Israel today is an indication of that coming fulfillment.

Since You are the same yesterday, today, and forever; and since You still rule over all the nations of the earth, we know there are times when You will uproot and tear down, and build and plant depending on what Your people need. We thank You for correcting the impression that children are punished for the sins of their parents. We know that You stand with all children who suffer unjust consequences because of the sins of others. You have made clear in the Bible that everyone will be held responsible for their own sins.

Thank You Heavenly Father and thank You Lord Jesus for fulfilling Your promises and making a new covenant with Your people when Jesus came into the world to live and die and rise again for us. We thank You that Jesus now rules at the right hand of our Heavenly Father, the LORD God Almighty. We thank You for sending the Holy Spirit into our lives because by grace You have given us faith

through Jesus Christ. We thank You for writing Your law in our minds and hearts through the Holy Spirit, and we thank You for empowering and guiding our obedience to You in our day-to-day decisions. As Your people continue to know You better through the Bible, help us remember that You will forgive our wickedness and cease to remember our sins because of all that Jesus has achieved and will achieve for us. Indeed, we know these spiritual promises are true because of Your actions as promised and revealed in the Bible and fulfilled throughout human history. 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.