

Praying Through Acts 9:31-43
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for directing Your disciples to spread the good news of salvation through faith in You to Your people in Judea, Galilee, Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the world. We also thank You that we have heard the good news of Jesus and have received the gift of eternal life through the same faith and truth they heard and received. We pray that Your Spirit would empower and guide us so we can help those who have never heard or rightly heard the truth about You as revealed in the Bible. Reveal to us how we can help those close at hand and those in distant places. Please give us the resources we need to help more and more people come to faith in You.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your great love that sent Jesus into the world to heal the sick and raise the dead, to teach us the truth about God and creation as You intended when You made all things, to die in our place with the perfect balance of justice and mercy in love, so You could forgive us for our sins and prepare us and a place for us in Your eternal kingdom thereby enabling us to serve You in the new earth and heaven You promised to all who would believe in Jesus.

Lord Jesus, thank You for demonstrating Your love, truth, and faithfulness to us through Your Apostles; such as, Peter who You worked through to heal the lame and raise the dead, even as You did when You walked upon the

earth. We ask that You help us tell others the truth about You and Your abounding love for everyone. Help us rightly understand and rightly teach the truth of the Bible. And help us live according to the truths that we teach, so we can teach in word and deed. Open the hearts and minds of those we seek to serve and teach so they will be drawn to faith in You and have a love and hunger for learning the Scriptures. Even as Peter humbly prayed for those who were sick and You healed them, teach us how to pray and benefit others with our prayers and actions. Work through us as You worked through the New Testament Church so You will be glorified in the world as You rightly deserve. 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.