

Praying Through James 2:14-26
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Heavenly Father, we praise You and thank You today for the faith in Jesus Christ that we have by Your grace. We thank You for teaching us the truth about the true God and reality; and about our situation in the world. We thank You for demonstrating to us how we should live morally and spiritually, honestly and lovingly, hopefully and mercifully through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Your Son.

Lord Jesus, You have done far more for us than just show and tell us how to live, for You gave Your life for us by dying on the cross for our sins. Indeed, You have cleansed us from our sins and filled us with the Holy Spirit. Please help us to more faithfully live according to the Bible's teachings as the Holy Spirit gives us wisdom and power to do God's will.

O God, we pray that our study of the Bible with the help of the Holy Spirit will enable us to grow in a faith that is more than just believing facts about You and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as important as these facts are. Help us put our faith in Jesus into right action, that we might do good deeds and work in ways that will bless others physically and spiritually.

Lord Jesus, we confess that we have not lived up to Your standards or our standards of behavior. Help us be more like father Abraham who was considered righteous for what he did when his faith and action worked together to

achieve Your purposes for Isaac and him as well as set an example for us. Reveal to us what You would have us to do where we find ourselves in the world today, and help us obey Your written Word of truth as we seek to meet the needs of others and show and tell them about Jesus. Help us to be willing to make sacrifices when these wise sacrifices will help those we see who lack clothing, food, or shelter. By Your Spirit help us reveal the truth about You in deeds as well as words of faith. In Your 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.