

Praying Through 2 Chronicles 6:12-21

International Bible Lesson

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You humbly bowing before You with all our hearts as those who seek to love, live, and serve You faithfully according to the Bible. Others may not see or hear us when we pray, but Lord, we are not praying to be seen or heard by others: we are praying with sincere hearts to honor, glorify, and praise You because You are worthy to be praised and served by all Your people. O Lord, if we are called to pray before others as King Solomon was called by You to do when he dedicated the temple according to Your promises, promises that You fulfilled with Your power, help us pray humbly, always looking to You for the words the Holy Spirit will inspire, words that will praise You and teach others how they too might pray as we serve as examples similar to King Solomon's example when he prayed. Dear Father, we may not pray as King Solomon prayed when he bowed down on his knees and raised his hands to You for all to see, but with our minds we can humbly bow our knees and offer ourselves as Your servants, and we can spiritually raise our hands to You as the One from whom all blessings flow.

Lord God, even as King Solomon prayed for those who would follow him as kings, as Your children help us live carefully before You in everything we do. Apart from You and Your word we would wander aimlessly, helplessly, and destructively. We pray to You and confess our sins, knowing that when we repent and place our faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior that You will forgive us. Heavenly Father, we thank You for doing what King Solomon said could not be done when You sent Your Son to live on earth as a human being in human flesh. He came not only to live among us and demonstrate by words and deeds how Your children should live, but by His sacrificial death and resurrection, we can have the assurance of forgiveness and cleansing from sin. We pray that You would not only forgive and cleanse us but also fill us with Your Holy Spirit that we might glorify You by all we say and do now and forever. 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.