

Praying Through Luke 24:1-12 & 30-35

International Bible Lesson

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Lord Jesus, we praise You and thank You for the overwhelming evidence that You gave Your followers, and have given us in the Bible, of Your resurrection from the dead. Though You were not embalmed, and spices did not anoint Your body, Your body did not decay in fulfillment of the prophecy in the Scriptures. We thank You that the evidence You gave the women, the evidence of an empty tomb, the collapsed grave clothes, and their meeting with angels, was good and sufficient evidence for anyone to believe that You had risen from the dead. Yet, Your deep love for Your followers and us moved You to give so much more evidence to them and to us for our lasting benefit.

Lord Jesus, with Your deep and loving wisdom, before overwhelming two men on the road to Emmaus with Your overpowering and holy presence, You carefully explained the Bible to them once again from Moses through the prophets so Your words could be deeply implanted within their hearts and minds before they recognized You for who You are. Later, after these two men had explained what You taught them from the Bible, You appeared to Your disciples and other followers who were hiding behind locked doors so the authorities might not find them, arrest them, and kill them too.

Lord, we do not have sufficient words to rightly express the glory and honor You deserve to hear from our lips or read in our minds. We do not have well-springs of love deep enough to share with You as You deserve; furthermore, all the love we enjoy comes from You having loved us first and filling us with Your love. We pray that as we read and study the Scriptures and see their truth and explore their meaning that we would have our hearts burn within us too and be able to express in words our love for You.

Lord Jesus, please fill us with Your Holy Spirit and give us a deeper love for You and others that we might be made wise, and be empowered and inspired to tell others the good news about You: good news that Your Holy Spirit can use to lead others to a life-transforming faith in You, to becoming new creations that will enjoy Your loving presence from everlasting to everlasting. In Your Holy 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.