

Praying Through Genesis 1:26-31; 2:4-7
International Bible Lesson
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

O God, we praise and thank You for creating us in Your image, male and female You created us. Thank You for giving us many of the abilities You possess, but in finite miniature. Thank You for giving us minds with the ability to think Your thoughts as revealed in the Bible. Thank You for the ability to love You and one another. Thank You for the ability to make choices that make a difference. Please help us make choices that will make You happy and bless others as we seek to do Your will and obey Your commands — given to us in the Bible. We seek to worship and serve You, the only one true God and Lord of lords. Please help us represent You faithfully by all we say and do, that many might come to seek You and find our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as their Lord and Savior too. We pray that You would give us the will and the wisdom to rule over all that You have created to be in submission to us. We pray that Your Holy Spirit would move us to pray rightly and wisely seek Your will as we exercise the authority You have given us. Please grant us understanding as we read Your Word and the power to obey Your commands when we suffer great temptations to follow our desires and emotions rather than obey You.

We thank You, Father, for creating people as male and female in Your image so we can be fruitful and increase in number to fill the earth and subdue it. But we confess that we have often misused our God-given abilities. Please forgive us and heal us and help us use our bodies and minds in ways that will bring honor to You as our Creator

and Redeemer. 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.