

Praying Through Genesis 2:18-24; 4:1-2

International Bible Lesson

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Heavenly Father, we come to You with grateful hearts, knowing that You designed and created us in Your image. Indeed, You have given Your people all we need to live, love, and serve You as our Creator and Lord. Thank You for making it possible for us to have loving and caring relationships with one another. As Your children, thank You for always being present with us and in us through the Holy Spirit — which You made possible by Your grace through our faith in Jesus Christ. We pray for Your special blessing upon those who feel lonely and upon those who live truly alone — perhaps living in a godless place as Your faithful servant. Please lead the most suitable people to them and help them find the companionship they need. Please help us be the kind of God-given helpers that You would have us to be among those in need.

Father, thank You for the immense freedom that You have given the human race, but we confess that we have not always used our freedoms wisely; indeed, we have sometimes rebelled against You and have disregarded Your commandments. In the future, please help us exercise our true freedom, made possible through faith in Jesus Christ, wisely by doing as of first importance Your will as expressed in the Bible. Guide us as we seek to wisely use our limited powers to demonstrate that we are loyal to You and want to live always according to Jesus — the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Even as You made certain Adam felt no pain when You created His helper from his rib, help us truly help others in ways that will cause them the least pain possible as we help them see their need of turning to You and living according to the Scriptures. 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.