

International Bible Lesson
Praying Through Joshua 24:1-3, 13-15, 21-24
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

O LORD, we praise You and glorify Your Name for revealing Yourself truly to us in the Bible. We pray that the Holy Spirit will teach us the right understanding of Your Word: Your Word that came in Jesus Christ and dwelt among us, died, rose again, and now sits at Your right hand in glory, and Your Word written, the Holy Bible, that we trust to guide us into all the truth, the truth that we need to faithfully follow You forever. LORD, we look for opportunities to gather with Your people where You have truly spoken to us before from the Scriptures. We pray for all our leaders and teachers in our churches around the world. We pray for Your leaders and teachers to have the wisdom and the strength to lead faithfully and sincerely, even as Joshua and Moses faithfully led the Hebrews, listened to Your voice, obeyed You, and sought to lead others to serve You. Today, we pledge once again to serve You and obey Your voice. Please bless our children, grandchildren, and all our descendants, that they might learn truly about You and follow You faithfully all the days of their lives. Please give them faithful leaders and teachers, and by the power of the Holy Spirit lead them to a sincere, loving, faithful allegiance to You and the Scriptures.

Lord Jesus, in a variety of different ways some people think it is evil to serve You as Lord and Savior, to trust in our Heavenly Father, to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and to believe the Bible is true. Please give us the wisdom and might we need so we are not intimidated and

cave to the pressures they try to place upon us. Help us always to serve You and others with compassion, kindness, and wisdom. Help those who do not know You come to know and love the one true God. 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.