

Mark 14:17-25 & Hebrews 8:6-13

International Bible Lesson Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for coming into our world to knowingly suffer rejection by Your people and betrayal by one of Your disciples in order to fulfill the promises Your Father and You made in the Bible. You gave Judas the opportunity to learn the truth and come to You for saving grace, but he chose to remain alienated from You and betray You for money. Indeed, Lord Jesus, please fulfill Your new covenant in our lives so we will always remain faithful to You and do Your will. Please help us in all things so we will never deny or betray You. Thank You for establishing the new covenant in Your blood, and for being present with us when we gather with other believers for the breaking of bread and sharing the cup in Your Name as our Lord and Savior. We depend totally on You and Your new covenant for all we have, are, and hope to be in the service of our God and Savior. Lord Jesus, we thank You that through Your ministry to us we receive many blessings as we seek to know more about You from the Bible and know You better personally. Indeed, when we compare the old covenant that You gave the Hebrews in the Old Testament with the new covenant in Your blood that we enjoy, we know from experience that it was enacted on better promises. Thankfully, we know You personally as our Lord, Savior, God, and Friend. Thankfully, You graciously put Your laws into our minds, so when we read the Bible or when we are tempted to sin, our minds say “Yes” to You and Your commands. Thankfully, You have written Your commands on our hearts, so we fully intend to obey You rather than follow the ways of this world. We praise You for being our God, for Your mercy, and for no longer remembering our sins. 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.