

Ruth 1:6-18
International Bible Lesson Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us good examples in the Bible of people who truly loved and cared for one another. Thank You for the good news that someone can be born in a culture or religion or race that is not of the line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but through faith in You, the true God, they can truly become a part of Your people. We thank You that Ruth, a Moabite, could learn the truth about You and by faith in You become one of Your people. Indeed, she became an ancestor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We thank You Father because You can use any of us, even unknowingly, as Your witnesses and through us Your Spirit can lead someone to faith in You. Thank You for the opportunity to show forth Your love and grace by what we say and do, even if our faith has become feeble by suffering from circumstances we cannot control. Please continue to use us in some way to reveal Your love, grace, and truth to others so some who believe in You can come into a stronger faith and others be moved along to eventually trust completely in You. Please help us find our security, our ultimate security, in You. Please increase our faith and trust in You and keep us from being moved away from being able to make a strong declaration of who You are and what You offer to all who place their lives completely in the hands of Jesus Christ, Your only begotten Son and our Savior. Please fill us with the Holy Spirit and knowledge of the Word of God so we can give good advice to others, especially to those we love, so no one would ever depart from living as one of Your people and bowing before You as their God. 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.

International Bible Lesson Prayers are available at InternationalBibleLessons.org
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