

## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

## Praying Through John 1:35-42

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for John the Baptist, who You filled with the Holy Spirit from the moment of his conception. You filled and directed Him with Your Spirit so he could testify truthfully and courageously about Jesus, the Messiah and Lamb of God. We thank You for two of John's disciples, who Your Spirit led to follow Jesus the moment they heard John point to Him and proclaim Him as the Lamb of God, the Sacrifice of God to take away the sin of the world. We thank You for the disciples and witnesses they became and for enabling them to spread the truth of Jesus to others convincingly. Even today, hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people around the world, are learning more about Jesus through John the Apostle's Gospel, Letters, and Book of Revelation. Father, please help us become more like Andrew and John and the other disciples who remained faithful to Jesus. Inspire us to follow Jesus, for we too have received His invitation to come and see, to read, study, and learn more about Him. Please guide and direct our steps so we will be able to tell others about Jesus in ways that will inspire them to want to meet Jesus and spend time with Him, immersed in and obeying His Word. Show us the kind of people You want us to become so we can conform our lives to Your perfect plans. Like Peter, help us build our lives on the firm foundation and knowledge that Jesus is the Son of 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 *Verse-by-verse Scripture Handout* 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 *Verse-by-verse Scripture Handout* 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.

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