



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

### **Praying Through John 1:43-51**

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the many ways You call people to follow Your only Son and then bring them into Your family when they believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We thank You for people like John the Baptist, who prepared others to believe in Jesus and receive Him as You revealed Him in the Bible. Then, as Your Holy Spirit led, they became Christians according to Your perfect timing. We thank You for relatives and friends who become Christians and then invite other family members and friends to learn about Jesus so they too can believe in Jesus, have Jesus remove their sins, and become children of God through faith in Jesus. We thank You for the mysterious call of Jesus, for the times we know that within our hearts He has called us to follow and obey Him. We also pray that You would give us the love, the wisdom, and the opportunity to introduce others to Jesus. We pray that as we study the Gospel of John that we will learn more about You, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit so we can be even more obedient and faithful followers of King Jesus, who reigns in our hearts and over all creation. Dear Father, please open our eyes to see Your work that is taking place all around us in the world today. Help us see what Jesus is doing by, in, and through the lives of Your people, those He changes when they come to faith in Him. Please help us more effectively teach the Bible and more perfectly conform our lives to Your Word so we can be good examples and better able to lead others to trust in Jesus and 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 *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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