



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

### **Praying Through John 3:31-36**

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You that by Your grace and through our faith in Jesus Christ that we can call You our Father. We thank You for Your love and grace that You have poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who fully indwells us. We pray, Father, that You would help us love You so much and be so submissive to You and Your will and words in all things that we would never grieve the Holy Spirit in thought, word, or deed. We also pray that the Holy Spirit would help us correct all our sinful attitudes and behaviors that we might truly live morally and spiritually clean. Father, we thank You for sending Jesus Christ to us, for if He had not come, we would not be able to know the truth about You and reality as fully as we need to know. If Jesus had not come to us, we would not know about sin, forgiveness of sin, cleansing from sin, and the Way of eternal life. As we read Your Word, the Bible, please increase our understanding and our faith in You and Your Word, and please help us certify and testify before others that You are true and all You have taught is true and You will fulfil all Your promises and warnings in the Bible. Father, we seek to love You more and more, and we seek to express our love for You and Your Son more and more by obeying all that Jesus has commanded us in the Bible. Please fill us with Your Holy Spirit without measure so there is no room for sinful disobedience in our lives. Lead those of Your choice to us that we might help them come to faithful obedience to You and see life rather than suffer the consequences of disobedience to You. 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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