



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through John 5:39-47

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the Holy Scriptures, words of truth and assurance supported conclusively by Your acts in the ancient past and our own lives. We thank You for translators who make it possible for millions around the globe to search the Scriptures in their own language and then tell their family, friends, and neighbors the good news they have found. We know from the Bible and the testimony of Jesus that the Scriptures testify in behalf of Jesus. By His life, teaching the truth, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven, we have received the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life by grace through faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Father, we pray that even now You would work in the lives of those who have refused to come to Jesus. We pray that the Holy Spirit might move them to repent of their sins and turn to Jesus for salvation.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for Your example. You did not seek the glory of sinful human beings, the glory that sinners seek, but You came seeking the glory and honor that God alone can bestow upon those what seek to do the will of God. Please fill us with the Holy Spirit that we might love others as You have loved us. Please help us live, speak, and act so others will know that we truly love You and love to serve others in Your name. Please abide with us, for we have set our hope in You. We believe You and in You, and we live based on all You have said and done. 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 *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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