

International Bible Study Commentary

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

Praying Through John 8:21-30

Lord Jesus, please teach us more about yourself as we pray, study the Bible, and practice what You teach. Indeed, we are from below and to learn the truth about God and reality we must listen to and believe You to know the truth about our situation and Your saving purposes for us. We do not want to remain people of "this world," people who only think and act according to "this world's" immoral, godless standards. We want to know Your will and obey Your commands. We want to love You more each day and do all we do from a deep love for You as our Lord and Savior. We do not want to die in our sin, but we do want to follow You day-by-day and always be where You are and go where You are going. We do not want to talk or live in a way that even appears to be of "this world," and we do not want to set a bad example as one of Your followers. Please help us believe and keep believing in You as You revealed yourself in the Bible, as "I Am" as well as the Savior of the world, the Lamb of God, Lord, Messiah, Redeemer, Son of God, and in many other ways. Please help us love and follow You so closely that You love to speak to us and keep teaching us as we pray, study the Bible, obey You, and teach others about You. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for going to the cross in our behalf, for suffering and dying to lovingly and justly forgive us for our sins and cleanse us from our sins. Thank You for rising from the dead and giving us the assurance of eternal life. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit so we can serve You and prepare for life above when we will see You face-to-face. 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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