Praying Through John 9:1-12

Heavenly Father, the Great Creator of all that exists, in You we have life. You are just and merciful, slow to anger, patient and forgiving. Please fill us with Your Holy Spirit and enable us to bear the fruit of Your Spirit to bless others and transform us into faithful and obedient children. Father, we thank You for the work You began in the man born blind and completed when Your Son met him. We pray that You will complete Your work in us, heal the spiritual blindness that remains in us, and cleanse us from all sinful thoughts and desires. Father, please help us wisely spend our time and use Your gifts to us. Please help us avoid useless and meaningless speculations and move us to use our time and gifts to discover and do Your works in Your ways to help others. Help us recognize opportunities to help others, as Jesus did and taught His first disciples to do. Help us serve others out of a deep love for You and our Savior Jesus Christ that others might see Your love working through us as the reason for doing Your works that all might be drawn to love, honor, and worship You. Please show us how we can honor You by our obedience and show others the wisdom of obeying all Your commands. Father, many times we do things that bring disappointment to You, others, and ourselves. We hate the sin that remains within us, and we long to be spiritually healed and cleansed as Jesus healed the man born blind. Please continue to work in our lives so we live daily and moment-by-moment consistent with Your will as revealed in the Bible and the life of Jesus Christ. 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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