



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through John 12:1-11

Lord Jesus, thank You for spending time with beloved friends You loved and who loved You. Indeed, we know that as we love and obey You, we show ourselves to You as Your friends and You love to spend time with us. Thank You for faithful believers such as Martha who loved to serve in ways that everyone saw are truly helpful, for she loved to use her God-given gifts to show hospitality and make it possible for You to teach and others to listen without unnecessary interruptions. We also thank You for faithful believers such as Mary who love to serve in ways that no one or very few people ever see, for she also used her God-given gifts to listen to Your teachings that she might teach others about You and the truths You taught—so they might come to believe in You too. We thank You for believers like Martha and Mary who loved You so much they showed by their actions that You are worthy to believe in, love, and serve. We thank You that many people like Mary will demonstrate in their gifted way as the Holy Spirit leads them that You are worthy to be loved, honored, and glorified as Lord. She expressed her love outwardly when she humbly anointed Your feet. Please help all of us who believe in You to look for ways to promote Your kingdom where we live, and be willing to do so even when we know we might endanger our lives, even as Lazarus testified about You after You raised him from the dead. We know that even if we must give up our lives in this world to tell others about You that we will live with You in Your kingdom throughout eternity. 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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