



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through John 12:20-26

Dear Heavenly Father, please help us realize, as Jesus realized, that eventually our lives on this earth will come to an end and what we might prefer to do cannot be done. Our hour has come. Father, we know that we cannot meet all the needs of all others all the time. When Jesus took on human flesh, He limited himself in so many ways, even as we are limited in some ways because we are human beings created in the image of God. Please help us see and do what we can with each hour that You give us. Please help us love and glorify You and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in all ways possible to us as the Holy Spirit leads and empowers us. Father, please help us live in such a way that when we die, we will leave behind some we have influenced to love You or love You more, believe in You and Your Son or trust You more, and who seek to obey all Your commands more faithfully with the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Please help us obey all Jesus' commands with a heartfelt love for You, Him, and others. Father, we love the life You have given us by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. But we do not love living in "this world" or according to "this world's standards"; indeed, we hate the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil that would turn us from loving and obeying You. We seek to serve and follow Jesus according to His commands. We know His commands are for our good always. Help us closely follow Jesus so we can serve Jesus in His way, in ways that You can honor even as He promised that You would honor His faithful servants. 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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