



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through John 12:37-43

Dear Lord Jesus, You performed so many powerful signs of Your steadfast love that it amazes us that those who saw You did not believe in You. But we confess that we took longer than necessary to turn our lives unreservedly over to You as our Lord and Savior. Please help us obey all Your commands and love God our Father and You as You deserve. Help us love others as You have loved us. Lord Jesus, we have heard and we have believed Your message and the truth about You that the Bible reveals. Please help us live and speak in ways that will influence others to believe the Scriptures and seek You as Lord and Savior. As Your Spirit leads us, please give us the power to meet the real needs of others in Your name. May we so lead our lives following You that we might never deny or forsake You and Your message to the world. Please help us warn others that they can persist in practicing sin for so long that there might come a time when their hardened hearts could make it impossible for them to repent, believe in You, and be saved. We may not understand the total truth behind Your hardening the hearts of committed sinners as you did in the days of Isaiah and in the days of Your ministry on earth, but we do not need to understand everything to believe that Your Word is true and Your warnings our real and everyone should take them seriously. When given the opportunity, please help us confess our faith in You in a way that will influence others to believe in You too. We honestly seek the glory that comes from God through faith in You as we pray in Your name. 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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