



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through John 15:18-27

Great and everlasting God, the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we do not have words and works to offer You all the praise and glory that You deserve. You are ever faithful, loving, just, and merciful. Thank You for sending Your only Son into the world, for humbling Him and yourself that He would come into a world that hates You both. How can our human minds comprehend such a deep and everlasting love—that Jesus came not only to teach us the truth by word and example, but also to sacrifice His life and die in our behalf. We praise You and thank You for choosing us out of the world so we would not belong to the world, but we confess that too often we have done things that would show the world that we belong to the world. Please forgive us, and please restore us among those You call Your faithful friends and disciples. We confess and forsake our sins knowing that You are faithful, just, and merciful to forgive us for all our sins by grace through faith in the One who died for us—our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please give us the courage and willingness to face and suffer persecution if You call us to do so, and please help us remain good and faithful witnesses and friends of Jesus Christ no matter the consequences in this world. Lord Jesus, the world had and has no cause to hate You and Your faithful followers, but we have every reason to love You, serve You, and testify on Your behalf. Please fill us with the Spirit of Truth, our Advocate, so we can remain faithful witnesses who willingly testify to the truth about You that many may come to saving faith in You. 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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