Praying Through John 16:1-11

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus Christ into the world to teach us the truth so we might not stumble into doubt, error, and sinful living. Please help us avoid unloving and unwise behavior and choices. Thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit and the Apostles who wrote the Bible, for Your Word written works powerfully so save us from deception by the devil and eternal death. Please cleanse us from all sin and keep us clean through Your powerful Word and the working of the Holy Spirit who dwells within all true believers in Jesus, even as You have forgiven us from all sin through the suffering and sacrificial death of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Help us remain filled with Your Holy Spirit, who alone can infallibly guide our interpretation and teaching of the Bible. We pray that You would help us remain teachable and open to correction as we study and share with others what we have learned from Your Word written. In the power of the Holy Spirit, help us live according to Your Word day-by-day. As we face daily trials and temptations from this world, from the ruler of this world, and from the many rulers working under the devil in every part of this world, please remind us of Your many precious promises in the Bible so we will have the faith and fortitude to do what is right according to Your will no matter the pain we may suffer as faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ—for many do not know You or Your Son. Help us lead the one's You have chosen into Your Kingdom that many might be saved from the suffering and the condemnation the devil has received. 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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