



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through John 18:12-24

Lord Jesus, the Word made flesh who dwelt among us to live and die in our behalf, we praise and thank You for humbling yourself, for allowing yourself to be arrested by those You came to save, for allowing Your hands to be bound knowing that even with bound hands You could call down angels to rescue You, but that would not have saved us. Thank You for using wicked men to do Your will in our behalf, for a wicked man prophesied that You would die for the people, for all who would repent of their sins and trust in You and Lord and Savior. Thank You for calling strong, brave men to be Your disciples, for men such as Peter who drew the sword in Your behalf and who despite the risk followed You to Your trial. Like Peter, in thought, word, and deed, we have denied our saving relationship with You when we have sinned, but You know that we love You, and like Peter, we feel humbled and sorrowful for the way we have treated You in the past. We hope and pray that as we learn more from the Bible and the Holy Spirit guides us that we will not betray or deny You in the future. We pray that You will forgive us for all our sins, knowing that You died on the cross and rose again to assure us of Your love and willingness to forgive us. We pray that You will cleanse us from all sin and empower us to live for You as Peter later did when on the Day of Pentecost and filled with the Holy Spirit Peter began serving You as a faithful witness—leading many to saving faith in You. We thank You for John, who followed You and gave us a faithful account of Your saving work in our behalf. 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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