



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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### Praying Through John 19:8-16

Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word tells us that perfect love casts out fear. Please help us not become like Pilate who feared Jesus, who feared the chief priests, and who feared the emperor—all for different reasons. Instead, please fill us with Your love and help us love those we might fear. Please help us act wisely toward them with the grace that Your Holy Spirit gives us. Please help us treat others as we would like to be treated. Please show us when we should speak and when we should remain silent. Help us remember that those in authority who have power over us may be evil, so help us pray rightly that You might change them or defeat them, that Your will might be done in their lives and ours. We want to acknowledge in practical ways day after day that Jesus Christ is King and Lord over all people, all nations, all leaders, and all creation. Jesus is our ultimate authority, and we pray that Your Holy Spirit will help us understand what the Bible teaches about Jesus and Your will for us as His brothers and sisters. No matter what happens please help us depend on You and give us the peace we need that comes from Your presence with us and within us through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Thank You for leading Jesus to the cross where You glorified Him when He was lifted up by sinful men for the forgiveness of our sins. Please grant us the assurance we need through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ and cleanse us from all unrighteousness that we might serve You better and glorify You by all we say and do in the Holy Spirit's power. 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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