



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through John 20:11-18

Lord Jesus, our Teacher and Shepherd, by grace You came into our world to teach us the truth about God, God's purposes, and the realities we face in the fallen world in which we live. We do not deserve Your coming to us, and we certainly do not deserve You laying down Your life for us, Your sheep. You came as the Good Shepherd to take care of all Your sheep in every way, which means You continue to do more for us that simply teach us. You also lead us and feed us and tend to all our needs as our Good Shepherd. We cannot adequately express our love and our thanks to You for the gift of eternal life and for all the many blessings that flow from being Your sheep, and Your Father being our Father and Your God being our God. You meet all our needs, and we know that You will meet all our needs throughout eternity. We pray that Your gift of the Holy Spirit within us will help us draw closer to our Father and to You as obedient children. We pray that You would open our eyes so we can see You at work in our world, so we can become coworkers with You, so we can be empowered by Your Spirit to manifest Your presence and Your love as the Good Shepherd of all who hear Your call, become Your sheep, and follow Your voice. We pray that You would open our ears so we can hear Your words and do Your will from day-to-day. As we read and study the Bible, please help us see the truthful, just, loving, merciful, gracious, and other ways You work, and help us live and work in these same ways as Your sheep who seek to show and tell others about You, the Teacher and Good Shepherd. 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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