



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through 1 John 2:1-6

Dear Heavenly Father, You created all that exists from the outflow of Your loving heart. You sent Your only Son into the world because You loved us. We cannot offer sufficient praise and adequately express to You the love and honor You deserve, so please help us praise, honor, and glorify You. Help us love, obey, and serve You this day and always. We do not want to sin against You or disregard Your commandments; yet too often we do not do what we ought and do what we ought not. We feel ashamed and we stand guilty before You, the Holy and Almighty God. So, as followers of Jesus Christ, we give thanks today and always that if we sin, we have an Advocate with You, and You are our Father by grace through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Indeed, without Your loving forgiveness and the sacrificial death of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, none of us could stand in Your presence and all of us would deserve Your just condemnation. Thank You, Merciful God, for sending Jesus to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, to suffer and die in our place, to cleanse us from all sin by shedding His blood in our behalf, and to stand beside us and with us as our Advocate, as our Defense Attorney, as One who stands with us and proclaims what He did for us, for we are totally unworthy to plead our own defense. Help us show our love, and give us more love, for You and our Savior Jesus by obeying His commandments. Please help us become perfect in love and faithfulness. Help us abide in Jesus and walk as He walked, even as pray to serve as His faithful witnesses. In His 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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