



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through 1 John 4:1-6

Dear Holy Spirit, please grant us discernment as we think about many of the ideas that bombard us almost hourly throughout the day from a variety of sources and people. As Jesus taught us, many spirits roam about in our world looking for people they can influence or indwell to lead them away from the true God. Please help us discern these false spirits and deceiving people from the guidance and promptings that You would give us according to the Bible's teachings. Help us remember that because You are God and from God that You will never lead us to do anything contrary to the Word of God who came in the flesh or the Word of God written, the Bible. Please grant us a right understanding of every word we read in the Bible, of every verse, every sentence, every concept, every teaching, and every thought. Please help us live according to the Bible and especially all of Jesus' teachings as You guide us and give us courage to do the will of our Father in heaven. Please keep false prophets and spirits far away from us, and if they come near us, please help us immediately recognize their deceptions and not fall into any traps they would set for us. We do love God. We love the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We want to love God more and more. We want to show our love by our obedience to God. We do love all the children of God and pray that You might love through us as we love others. Please continue to keep us filled with Your presence as we seek to keep every room in our spiritual house—our bodies, minds, and souls—as clean places for You to indwell and enjoy. 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.

© 2021 by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr. All Rights Reserved
Permission Granted for Not for Profit Use.

Contact: P.O. Box 1052, Edmond, Oklahoma, 73083 and lgp@theiblf.com.