



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

### **Praying Through 1 John 4:7-12**

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for creating us and giving us life, but we confess that we have not lived up to the kind of persons we would like to be at all times, and we have disregarded some of Your commandments, which would have kept us from sorrowful consequences if we had only obeyed You. Thank You for sending Jesus Christ, Your only Son, into this world to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, to make the just and merciful forgiveness of our sins possible as the Atoning Sacrifice for our sins, and to grant us life eternal by grace through faith in Him as our Lord and Savior. Father, You loved us and You saved us because You loved us and still love us; therefore, we love You too. We know You, because we were born of You when You adopted us into Your family. We love You and others because You indwell us and our love is from You. We depend on You as the Source of all goodness and the Source of all goodness and love that we experience and express to others. Since You are love and we know You, You enable us to love, but we ask that You would open our eyes and help us make the changes we need to make so we will love others as You will, and so You can better love others through us as You desire. Help us truly be those who set a good example among our brothers and sisters so they will see how we ought to love one another. Continue to abide with and within us in a way that will help us love others with the intelligence, truth, and power that the Holy Spirit can give us. 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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