



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through James 1:19-27

Lord Jesus, we praise You and glorify Your Name and give You thanks for Your great love for the world and for all You have called into Your holy family. Please help us love one another as You have loved us and continue to love us. Fill us with the Holy Spirit to guide us and help us show Your love by our being quick to listen even when discussing ideas that we do not agree with; help us be slow to speak after carefully and prayerfully considering what truths to share in love. Please help us control our anger, especially when we feel provoked, so we do not speak or act in harmful ways. Please help us distinguish the leading of the Holy Spirit from our own thoughts and desires; help us turn from all wickedness and sin for the sake of Your righteousness. We pray that as we study the Bible that we would be made aware of Your truths and teachings that we need to memorize and implant into our minds with a heart to obey all we learn from You. We pray that with Your help we would be doers of Your Word and not hearers only. We do not want to deceive ourselves! We ask that You help us obey Your perfect law of love and see the changes we need to make as we study Your word to do Your work in Your power and in Your way. Help us become more aware of the needs of others, especially those closest to us and those in distress that we can help. Show us how to help others in the best way so we can point them to you. We do want our faith in You to be effective rather than a deceptive, worthless, faith. 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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Contact: P.O. Box 1052, Edmond, Oklahoma, 73083 and lgp@theiblf.com.