



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

### **Praying Through James 3:13-18**

Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us Your Word of Truth in Jesus Christ personally and in the Bible. We thank You that we can learn more about Jesus and His will for and work in our lives as we pray and study the Bible with the guidance and understanding the Holy Spirit gives us. Please help us become wise and understanding with the wisdom from above. Please help us work and worship with those who are wise and understanding among Your people. Please help us show forth Your good works by example and the way we live. Please help us speak the words that You would speak. Please help us do the work that You would do through us with gentleness born of wisdom. Heavenly Father, You know far better than we do that we live among those with selfish ambition who increasingly bring disorder and wickedness of every kind into this world, and we know that it breaks Your heart as it does ours. They claim to be wise and know more than everyone else, but their wisdom is earthly, unspiritual, devilish and destructive. Please give us Your grace to live differently in all our relationships. Please grant us purity of thought and life. Please help us show forth Your nature in us as Your children as we become more peace-loving, more merciful, and more spiritually mature each day. Please help us do what we can wisely do with the wisdom You give us to help those in need. And please help us give to others what only You can give through us; that is, the grace and faith in Jesus Christ that can free them from slavery to sin and death and give them eternal life. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



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**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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