



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

### Praying Through James 4:11-17

Lord Jesus, please put a guard on my mouth so I do not intentionally or unintentionally speak evil against a fellow believer in You or anyone else. Like my adopted brothers and sisters in the household of God, by Your grace we have placed our faith in You as our Lord and Savior. You are not finished making us into the kind of persons that You intend us to become as You remake us into Your image. I do not want to judge or condemn any of them. Just as others have come beside me in love to help me obey and serve You better, please help me to do the same with others. Lord, You always spoke the truth to Your adopted brothers and sisters, and You always spoke the truth in love to help those in Your family make the changes in our behavior that You knew we needed to make for the benefit of others and ourselves. Please help me become more like You. You never spoke an evil word. You never returned evil for evil. You never judged the Law of God, for the Law of God is Your perfect Law that You perfectly obeyed and still obey. Your Law of Love still guides everything You say and do from heaven and as You abide in us. Help us be better representatives of You and help us avoid evil. Lord Jesus, I want to do Your will and I want Your will to be done. By Your Spirit, please help me know and do Your will in everything. Please help me submit myself to You with the prayer that You will guide my every thought, decision, and step, for unlike You, I do not know what tomorrow will bring. With complete submission to You, help me know and do the right thing always so I will not sin. 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](mailto:lgp@theiblf.com).