



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

### **Praying Through James 5:13-20**

Dear Holy Spirit, as followers of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we know that You live within us according to the Bible's teachings. You know all our sufferings and You pray for us. Please remind us to pray and teach us how to pray according to the will of God for ourselves and our situations. When we are cheerful, please remind us to sing songs of praise, even if our singing is within our hearts where only God can hear. Even so, we do pray that our cheerfulness and singing might lead others to trust in the Lord Jesus too, even as some heard the Apostle Paul singing when chained in a prison cell. We know of some in our Christian fellowship and church who have been or are sick and in pain. We pause now and pray for them by name . . . . If there is more that we can do, please show us. Help us pray and do as the Bible teaches as we trust in Your leading and look to the leaders in our church to do as the Bible teaches. Please help us pray in faith, knowing that You love us and are completely trustworthy. Please forgive us for all our sins in the Name of Jesus Christ. Please help us admit our wrongdoings, ask forgiveness from others, and where possible and appropriate make amends. Please help us live in righteousness as You guide us and teach us how to live. Please make our prayers powerful and effective as we trust and pray according to the will of God. If we wander from the truth, we pray that You would lead us back or send someone to us who will lead us back to Jesus—the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Please help us help others as You have helped us come to faith in the true God. 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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