

Friday, August 19: Read [Judges 8](#)

Chapter 8 records the stormy account of Gideon's final days. In spite of his flaws, God used him as a Judge of Israel. He is memorialized in [Hebrews 11:32](#) as a man of faith. Any time God uses someone for his purposes, he uses a flawed (even sinful) person. Thank God today that he is willing to use us if we are willing to submit to his will.

Pray for Our Missionaries

Juan & Adriana Palacios (Angola Africa), **Ivan & Kim Hoyt** (Argentina), **David & Miriam Trott** (Cochabamba, Bolivia), **Mario Bloise** (Argentina), **Nate & MaryBeth Brace** (Kentucky), **Dan & DeAnn Gerard** (San Antonio, TX), **Robert Newkirk** (Jesus Film), **Craig & Shelly Shafer** (Sentani, Indonesia), **Randy & Kari Ash, John Smith** (CEF), **Mike & Fran VanBruggen** (S. Africa), **Sue Sanders** (Detroit, MI), **Matt Kooi** (Tijuana), **Daniel Jezonski** (Wycliffe), **Danielle Tucker** (YWAM), **Andrew & Sara Williams** (New Tribes).

Specific Concerns:

- **BOLD Faith** initiative in September
- **Tijuana Mission Trip** that is set for for November 20-26

Pray this weekend:

- Review of the week (Thank God for answered prayer)
- Note any ongoing concerns to pray for the week.
- Praise God that He is working in your life. You are growing in your faith.



Spiritual Disciplines

Reading Assignments

- *Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your reading each day.*
- *Read the chapters of the Bible according to the date.*
- *Underline any meaningful verses and take note of specific advice or wisdom gleaned from your reading.*
- *Note any unclear passages or teaching and seek insight, answers or help.*
- *Think about what you're reading. Ask:*
 1. *How does this apply to me?*
 2. *Are there any temptations to avoid, sins to confess, commands to obey or promises to claim?*
 3. *What insight do I gain on God, myself, others, or life?*
- *Ask God to show you any specific action you need to take as you read.*

Weekly Readings

Monday, August 15: Read [1 Timothy 3:1-13](#); [Ephesians 4:1-16](#)

The story of Deborah in Judges 4 reminds us of the importance of gifted leadership, especially at times of crisis. Read through these two passages and notice God's qualifications for spiritual leaders. What results from godly leadership in the church? What happens when it is lacking?

Pray for personal growth:

1. *My relationship with God.*
2. *My life roles*
3. *My personal needs/weak areas*
4. *Goals and objectives*

Tuesday, August 16: Read [Galatians 3:23-29](#), [1 Cor. 11:1-16](#), [Col.3:15-4:1](#)

A second theme that comes from our study of Deborah is sex types, and role responsibility in church, family, government and society. Scripture has more to say about church and family than other social spheres. How do we apply today's passages as Christians seeking to be faithful to God but effective and relevant in our society? How should we respond when other Christians differ with our views?

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday August 17: Read [Judges 6](#)

Notice the dire straits Israel is in when God calls Gideon. What is Gideon doing and how strong is his own faith at the time. How does God prove himself to Gideon? Should we put out fleeces today?

Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

(Consider fasting one, two, or all meals this day.)

- a. Pastors: Pray for God's grace & guidance in Pastor Jim and Pastor David's ministries and families. Pray for the Youth and children's ministries here at BGCC.
- b. Worship: Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.
- c. Fellowship: Ask God to deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers.
- d. Discipleship: ask God to develop the faith, dedication, and leadership of our people.
- e. Outreach: Pray that God will use Bethel Gilead to make a positive impact on our community so that many would come to Christ.
- f. Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future Pray for God's clear leading in 2016 and beyond.

Thursday, August 18: Read [Judges 7](#)

Gideon leads the charge against the Midianites. Why do you suppose God thinned out the troops so drastically? What would you have thought about their military strategy with trumpets, torches and clay pots? How did God show his wisdom and power to that small band of soldiers? What lessons can you carry from this account?

Pray for "My World"

- Neighbors • People at Work • Others God bring into my life
- Continue to pray for the nation, our county and area churches.
- Thank God for "THE CALL" prayer event and the response of our area churches. Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County.

