

**Friday**, December 23: Read [Proverbs 30-31, Luke 2:1-40](#)

Soak in the rich account of Jesus' birth as recorded by Luke. Which details most enthrall you? How might the shepherds' response to the gospel be a model for you personally in the coming year? Might he make you a witness to the world-changing significance of Christmas? The Savior, Christ the Lord, has come!

Notes:

### **Pray for Our Missionaries**

**Juan & Adriana Palacios** (Angola Africa), **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:**

- Christmas Services
- The upcoming prayer service, "The Call", scheduled for January 15.

### **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**, December 19: Read [Proverbs 21-22, Isaiah 7:13-15, 9:1-7](#)

This week we will finish the Proverbs of Solomon along with reading scripture related to the Advent of Jesus Christ. We begin with Old Testament prophecies, and then the four gospel accounts.

**Notes:**

*Monday Pray for:*

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

**Tuesday**, December 20: Read [\*Proverbs 23-24, John 1:1-14\*](#)

Note Paul's teaching on the incarnation of Christ in [\*Colossians 1:15-20, 2:8-10\*](#). Why was the incarnation necessary for our redemption according to [\*Hebrews 2:10-18\*](#)?

Notes:

***Pray for family and friends by name.***

**Wednesday** December 21: Read [\*Proverbs 25-26, Matthew 1:18-2:12\*](#)

Follow the example of the wise men this Christmas. Seek Christ earnestly and worship Him wholeheartedly. What gift could you possibly offer the Lord this Christmas? What would you be willing to sacrifice for his name sake?

Notes:

**Wednesday Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church  
(Consider fasting one, two, or all meals this day.)**

- a. Pastors: Pray for God's grace and guidance in Pastor Jim and Pastor David's ministries and families. Pray for Linda Penn as she transitions into her new position 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. Pray for the children and youth ministries here at BGCC.
- 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 2017 and beyond.

**Thursday**, December 22: Read [\*Proverbs 27-29, Luke 1\*](#)

Luke does an excellent job of documenting the circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth. Read carefully both Mary and Zechariah's songs of adoration to God. What kind of lyrics could you write to record "great things" that God has done for you?

Notes:

***Pray for "My World"***

- Neighbors • People at Work • Others God brings into my life
- Continue to pray for the nation, our county and area churches.
- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County.