

Friday, May 26: Read [Philippians 3:7-14](#).

As we seek to influence our neighbors for Christ, remember that the goal is not to be effective with others, but to be faithful to Christ, whether we succeed or fail. That is our high calling -- to know him and then to represent him with those around us. God will reward our faithfulness, not necessarily our successfulness. ([1 Peter 1:13-16](#)), However, we are likely to succeed and make a big difference for Christ if we are genuinely obedient and faithful to Christ as our personal Savior and Lord. If we abide in him, we will bear much fruit. ([John 15:5](#))

Notes:

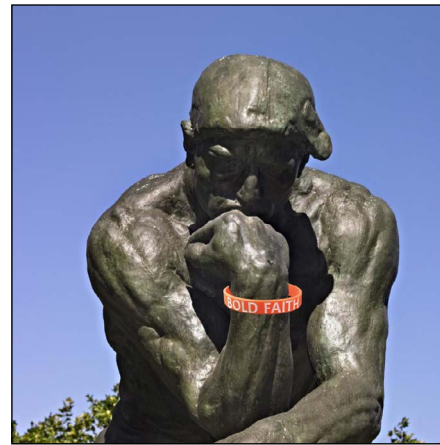
Pray for Our Missionaries

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), **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:

Pray this weekend:

- Review the week (Thank God for answered prayer)
- Note any ongoing concerns to pray for next 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, May 22: Read [John 15:1-17](#).

We'll start our last week of Bold Faith thinking about fruitfulness in the Christian life. Read this passage carefully and discern what God expects of you in order to be fruitful and productive. Note, twice Jesus reiterates his command that we love others. The power to love my neighbors ultimately comes from the vine. Ask God to love others through you and then get busy doing exactly that through faith in him.

Notes:

Pray for:

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

Tuesday, May 23: Read [Isaiah 58:1-10](#)

Isaiah reminds Israel what “true religion” looks like -- not going through the motions but sincerely caring for the needs of people around them. Our assignment is not far from theirs -- to reach out to the needy in Jesus’ name ([Matthew 25:34-40](#)). Ask God to show you someone this week that you can personally help, possibly someone nearby in your neighborhood. Be ready to reach out as God leads you. You’ll be glad you did!

Notes:

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday May 24: Read [2 Corinthians 2:14 - 3:6](#)

Paul reminds the Corinthian churches that we all are ministers under the new covenant. Note from this passage what our motive for serving should be, as well as where the power to serve comes from. Do you see yourself as a “minister of God” in your neighborhood? That’s how God sees you. And he wants to spread “the aroma” of Christ through you to your neighbors.

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, May 25: Read [2 Corinthians 4:1-18](#)

Notice in this passage our efforts will not be without resistance. If you sincerely try to reach out to your neighborhood, the devil will resist your efforts in some form or fashion. How do we overcome his defenses? From the text, expect difficulty for starters. Rely on God’s power to persist and trust in the truth of Christ to win out over the lies of the enemy ([Ephesians 6:10-20](#)).

Notes:

Pray for “My World”

- Neighbors • People at Work • Others God brings into my life. Begin to take note of specific needs around you and ask God what he wants you to do to help.
- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County. Pray for the area churches and the upcoming Bold Faith Initiative during the month of May.
- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.