Friday, June 23: Read Matthew 12, Psalms 35.

Psalm 35 is a call for help. David appeals to God's mercy to save him from his enemies. Its almost like a court hearing where he lays out his case before God and implores him to act in his favor. In the end, he determines to praise God for his help in troubled times. Jesus gives us some insight into demonic activity in Matthew 12 and how we are to counter it. In the end, he alludes to that whole generation of unbelievers as being under the influence of the devil. Could that be true of people in our time as well?

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 and underline any meaningful verses and take note of specific advise 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, June 19: Read Matthew 8, Psalm 29-30.

King David gives us two excellent models for worshipping God in Psalm 29 and 30. Read them slowly. Think about each line and consider praying it back to God as your own words of praise.

Matthew recorded Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount (<u>Matthew 6 and 7</u>). Now he records Jesus' active works in the following chapters. Notice the contrast between the "great faith" of the centurion and the "little faith" of the twelve disciples.

Notes:

Pray for:

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

Tuesday, June 20: Read Matthew 9; Psalm 31

David describes God as his refuge and fortress in Psalm 31. Notice the connection between his trust in God and God's deliverance.

Matthew 9 again affirms the significance of faith (trust) and the action of Jesus, namely healing. How does this work for us today? What if Jesus were to way to you, "according you your faith, be it done unto you"? What would you expect to happen?

Notes:

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday June 21: Read Matthew 10; Psalms 32-33

Psalm 32 is a Psalm of repentance and forgiveness. Can you relate to the awful guilt of sin and the relief that comes when we finally turn to God for forgiveness and cleansing?

Jesus commissions the twelve and sends them out on a mission trip in Matthew 10. Take note of his specific instructions as well as warnings to the perils of ministry. How might this chapter instruct your personally today?

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, June 22: Read Matthew 11; Psalm 34.

Psalm 34 is another outstanding model of worship. Notice how David begins by exclaiming his devotion to God and then goes on to explain why he loves and trusts him. He frequently rehearses ways that God has come to his aid and then draws principles of how God works on our behalf. He reminds himself, and us, just why we should extol the Lord at all times and keep his praise always on our lips.

Notes:

Pray for "My World"

- Neighbors People who live around me.
- 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 "The Call" prayer gathering.
- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.