

**Friday**, June 30: Read [Psalms 43-44](#), [Matthew 17](#).

The nation is struggling with disillusionment. They know what God has done in the past, but they find themselves in a predicament and wonder whether God will actually show up and save them again. The Psalm finishes with a glimmer of hope -- that God would come to their rescue because of his “unfailing love”.

The Transfiguration is a peek into the dual nature of Jesus Christ and possibly a fulfillment of Matthew 16:28. Peter later recollects on the experience in [2 Peter 1:16-18](#).

*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 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**, June 26: Read [Psalms 36-37](#), [Matthew 13](#)

David's advice to the righteous in Psalm 37 is excellent instruction for anyone who wants to reinforce their walk with God. Note his many admonitions in the first eight verses for what to do and what not to do. Which apply to your life today? Note also the contrast between the righteous and the wicked as outlined in the second half of the Psalm.

Matthew 13 highlights some of Jesus' most notable parables. Notice his explanation in verse 11 and be glad that God has cut you in on his “secrets of the Kingdom”. Be sure your heart is good (receptive) soil!

*Notes:*

*Pray for:*

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

**Tuesday**, June 27: Read [\*Psalm 38-39, Matthew 14\*](#)

King David is humbled by life difficulties and receives them as discipline. In what ways might this be true in your life difficulties and what attitude have you assumed before God? (Note [\*Hebrews 12:7-13\*](#)) Set aside time to meditate on Psalm 39:4-7. Wise advice for all of us who get caught up in the busyness and hustle of life.

Notes:

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

**Wednesday** June 28: Read [\*Psalms 40-41, Matthew 15\*](#)

Psalm 40 reveals the secret to David's patient endurance. He continually refocuses from his circumstances to God. He is quick to acknowledge who God is, what he has already done, and what he expects God to yet do. Can you take time and refocus as well?

Jesus has an interesting take on religious traditions and their potential to supplant God's truth. In the end, he reemphasizes that the end of the matter is a matter of the heart (verses 8,18).

**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 in 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 29: Read [\*Psalm 42, Matthew 16\*](#).

Psalm 42 lays out a strategy for countering depression. Read carefully verses 5 and 11. The Psalmist instructs us to check our mindset and refocus hope on God. In some cases you may have to do this often if not daily (or hourly) to assure that your heart is fully committed to God and not self absorbed or set on worldly desires.

In Matthew 16, Jesus contends with the religious leaders over his authority to teach. In private, he reveals himself to the disciples, explains to them his ultimate mission at Calvary and calls them to fully commit to him as disciples.

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 Call" prayer gathering coming on July 16.
- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.