

Friday, January 6: Read [*Psalm 119:137-176*](#)

Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Friday: Pray for Our Missionaries

David & Miriam Trott (Tucuman, Argentina), ***Dan and DeAnn Gerard*** (San Antonio, TX), ***Craig and Shelly Schafer*** (Asia-Pacific Region), ***Joe and Sue Saunders-Robb*** (Reliant), ***Daniel Jezowski*** (Papau, New Guinea), ***Brad and Christa Babjack*** (Michigan State University and Lansing Community College), ***Alvaro and Raquel Garriga*** (Central Asia), ***Pastor Roberto*** (Las Palmas Church, Tijuana)



Spiritual Disciplines Guide

Week of January 1, 2023

About a year ago, as a church, we were reading through the Old Testament and came to the book of Psalms. When we got to Psalms 119, I suggested then that we deal with this Psalm as its own separate study. Let's do that again this week. Let's break this Psalm into five parts and read a section of it each day. Psalm 119 is not only the longest psalm, it is the longest chapter of the Bible (which is interesting because Psalms 117 is the shortest chapter of the Bible and Psalm 118:8 is the exact center verse of the Bible!).

The theme for this chapter is God's Word. Take note as you read each day the various synonyms used to describe the scriptures -- Your law, your precepts, your statutes, etc. Notice the author's love and reverence for God's word. Note the various things God's word can do for someone's life. There is not an equal to God's word in human experience. Our attitude toward it ought to be like the psalmist's attitude in Psalm 119. You'll notice that the Psalm is broken into sections. Each section begins with one of the Hebrew alphabet letters, ie, Aleph, Beth, Gimel, etc. The Psalm is written as an acrostic poem divided into 22 sections of 8 verses corresponding to the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet. This same Hebrew poetic device is used in Proverbs 31 and the book of Lamentations. Let this chapter move you this week to a greater love and respect for the written word of God.

Monday, January 2: Read [*Psalm 119:1-32*](#)

Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Monday: Pray for yourself:

My relationship with God

My life roles and responsibilities

My personal needs/weak areas

My goals and objectives for this winter season.

Tuesday, January 3: Read [*Psalm 119:33-64*](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, January 4: Read [*Psalm 119:65-96*](#)

Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Wednesday: Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

1. Leadership: Pray for God's grace and guidance in Pastor Jim and Pastor David's ministries and families. Pray for Linda Penn in her work at BGCC. Pray for the church council and the various ministry team leaders. Ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up more workers for the harvest ([*Matthew 9:38*](#))
2. Worship: Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Pray for more musicians to help lead the church in worship, including a pianist. Pray for the development of a youth praise team.
3. Fellowship: Ask God to deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers. Pray that we incorporate newcomers into our church fellowship. Take some time to pray through this past Sunday's congregational prayer requests.
4. Discipleship: Ask God to develop the faith, dedication, and leadership of our people. Pray for the children and youth ministries at BGCC. Ask God to bless our small group ministry, to raise up new groups, new teachers and more leaders.
5. Outreach: Pray that God will use Bethel Gilead to make a positive impact on our community so that many would come to Christ. Ask God to embolden our people to intentionally reach out to others through the Kingdom Assignment "*Dare to Care*".

6. Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for God's clear leading in our future plans as we call our members to a greater love and commitment to the Lord and his service. Ask God to bless our finances so that we can better accomplish his purposes for our congregation.

Thursday, January 5: Read [*Psalm 119:97-136*](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Thursday: Pray for "My World"

(Write down names as God brings people to mind.)

- Neighbors • People who live around me.
- People at Work • Others God brings into my life. Take note of specific needs around you and ask God what he wants you to do to help. Who can you invite to church?
- Community -- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County, even through time of crisis.
- Pray for the area churches and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation, especially as churches reunite after the pandemic.
- Pray for the community parachurch ministries serving our county, including Beginnings Care for Life Center, Branch County Right to Life, Joppa Recovery/ Celebrate Recovery, Coach Eby Center, Family Promise, Forgotten Man Ministries, Freedom Recovery Center, God's Choice Church, Jacob's Well Ministry, Presbyterian Free Health Clinic, Shelterhouse, Tommy's House, the Gideons and the Bronson Food Pantry.
- America: Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America. Pray that God would use the pandemic, the economy and world events to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ. Pray for God's guidance and protection for our nation in the coming weeks and months.