

Friday, August 4: Read [Job 40-42](#)

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 July 30, 2023

Job's three friends have exhausted their efforts to convince him that he is guilty before God and needs to repent. Enter Elihu, a younger and perhaps wiser man than the other three. His explanations seem to be more in line with the greater teaching of scripture. Note as you read his six chapters, in particular, his presentation of the character of God. In the final chapter of Job, Elihu receives no rebuke of God while the other three are admonished and called out. This seems to be consistent with Elihu's perspective of God as compared to their's.

In chapters 38-41 God finally answers Job. However his answer is actually an extended monologue of questions. The central point in God's response is that Job can't humanly comprehend the actions of God and so he doesn't understand what exactly he is going through. In the end, Job repents, prays for his friends, and God restores him to his former greatness.

Like Job, we are often left with more questions than answers. In the end, we are called to trust God -- even "*though he slay me*" ([Job 13:15](#)). The fact is, though, we can look forward to an ultimate restoration of all things, a time when we will finally understand what God did through human suffering, pain and turmoil during our days on earth ([1 Corinthians 13:12](#))

Monday, July 31: Read [Job 31-33](#)

*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 the summer season.

Tuesday, August 1: Read [Job 34-35](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, August 2: Read [Job 36-37](#)

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, August 3: Read [Job 38-39](#)

*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.