

Friday, January 14: Read [Habakkuk 1-3](#) Sermon Text: [Luke 10: 38-42](#)

*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), **Sue Saunders** (Bosnia), **Matt and Becky Kooi** (Tijuana), **Daniel Jezowski** (Wycliffe), **Brad and Christa Babjack** (University of West Virginia), **Alvaro and Raquel Garriga** (Central Asia), **Brendan and Ashley Camp** (Nicaragua)



Spiritual Disciplines Guide

Chart the Course

Old Testament

Week of January 9, 2022

This week we will pick up our reading with four short minor prophets -- Jonah, Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk. Whenever possible, it's good to read through an entire book of the Bible in one sitting. This gives you a comprehensive overview of the author's theme. Because the minor prophets tend to be short 3,4 chapter books, we can read many of them in a matter of 15-20 minutes. When you do, take time to mark verses that stand out to you. Be ready to review what you've read each day and look for any modern day equivalents or applications for you in your present life experiences. For example, notice the humanity of Jonah and his disobedient response to God's assignment for him. And notice the consequences of his disobedience along with the dramatic results in Ninevah when he finally obeyed.

We'll read Micah in two sittings. His prophecies concern pending judgement on both the Northern Kingdom (Israel/Samaria) and the Southern Kingdom (Judah/Jerusalem). Sandwiched in his exhortations are several prophecies of the coming Messiah and his final reign ([Micah 5:2-5](#); [7:7-20](#)). Nahum is a sequel to the book of Jonah. Written about one hundred years after Jonah's ministry, he predicts the final destruction of Ninevah by the Babylonians.

Habakkuk's book parallels the events of [2 Kings 21-22](#). He bemoans Judah's wicked ways but then questions God's justice when he sends a more wicked nation (Babylon) to punish his people for their sins. Chapter two contains a pillar verse for us as Christians -- the righteous will live by faith ([Habakkuk 2:4](#), [Romans 1:17](#)). Chapter three is a prophet's prayer -- an excellent prototype of how someone can wrestle with injustices in the world and finally resolve to trust in God.

Monday, January 10: Read [Jonah 1-4](#)

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 2022

Tuesday, January 11: Read [Micah 1-4](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, January 12: Read [Micah 5-7](#)

*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 13: Read [Nahum 1-3](#)

*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 the Coronavirus 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 Coronavirus outbreak to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ. Pray for God's guidance and protection for our nation in the coming weeks and months.