

Friday, December 17: Read [Ezekiel 45-48](#); Sermon Text: [Luke 1](#)

*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), **Salomon and Megan Guzman** (Tijuana), **Alvaro and Raquel Garriga** (Central Asia), **Brendan and Ashley Camp** (Nicaragua)



Bible Reading 2021
Chart the Course
Old Testament
Week of December 12, 2021

This week we will finish up the salty book of Ezekiel. God gives Ezekiel the responsibility of a spiritual watchman for the nation (chapter 33). He is to warn Israel of pending danger like a night watchman would do on guard duty. To fail to warn them would put his own life under judgement and risk the lives of countless people who need to decide their course of action.

This last section of the book looks forward beyond the restoration of Israel to the ultimate and final restoration, the future kingdom age when Christ will rule as King. The teaching of a Millennial Kingdom with temple worship is clearest seen here in Ezekiel 40-48, along with [Revelation 20](#). Christians throughout the centuries have pondered these chapters and the possible interpretations of this 1000 year period of history. Some see it as a literal 1000 year rule of Jesus, physically present on earth. Others have suggested its metaphoric or a spiritual rule, but not a physical, political rule. Read these chapters carefully and consider what exactly they may be pointing to -- something possibly not too far off in the future!

One last comment in regards to the dry bones chapter. Ezekiel 37 is one of the more familiar chapters of the book. Here God figuratively promises to resurrect the nation of Israel by bringing them back to the land from their far away dwellings in exile. His purpose, as repeated so often in Ezekiel, is so that *all will know that I am the Lord*.

Monday, December 13: Read [Ezekiel 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 2021

Tuesday, December 14: Read [Ezekiel 34-36](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, December 15: Read [Ezekiel 37-40](#)

*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, December 16: Read [Ezekiel 41-44](#)

*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.