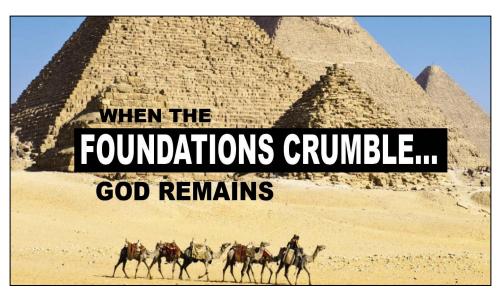
### Friday, Nov. 10: Read Genesis 47, Hebrews 7

<u>Genesis 47</u>: After two years into the famine, Jacob and his whole family are securely placed in the land of Goshen. They would prosper and purchase land while the rest of Egypt sold their cattle and land to Pharaoh. Jacob lived long enough to see his family prosper. Yet, he never felt at home and wanted to be buried in the promised land. God promises much more than what Egypt can offer. Read <u>Matthew</u> 6:25-34

In <u>Hebrews 7</u>, we are told of the new covenant. Jesus is our high priest forever. As great as it was that God would make of the seed of Abraham a great nation, it is even more so through Jesus Christ. We can read from Genesis how God preserved His people even during famine. In Christ, we see that not only will He meet our physical needs but also our spiritual needs. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they shall be satisfied." What the world offers comes at a cost and will never satisfy. However, God has always invited mankind to drink and eat at his table without cost. If you find yourself in a time of famine know that you are blessed. Read *Isaiah 55:1-3*.

#### Pray for Our Missionaries

Juan & Adriana Palacios (Angola, Africa), David & Miriam Trott (Cochabamba, Bolivia), Mario Bloise (Argentina), Dan & DeAnn Gerard (San Antonio, TX), Robert Newkirk (Jesus Film), Craig & Shelly Shafer (Sentani, Indonesia), Mike & Fran VanBruggen (South Africa), Sue Sanders (Detroit, MI), Matt Kooi (Tijuana), Daniel Jezonski (Wycliffe), Danielle Tucker (France), Andrew & Sara Williams (New Tribes), Brad Babjack (Intervarsity), Salomon Guzman (Tijuana), Alvaro and Rachel Garriga (Interserve USA)



# **Spiritual Disciplines**

- Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your reading each day.
- Read the chapters and underline any meaningful verses and take note of specific advise 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, Nov. 6: Read Genesis 43, Hebrews 3

<u>Genesis 43</u> records the next step for Jacob and his sons. Jacob has kicked the can down the road as long as he could. Now, he has to send his sons back to Egypt and in a hopeful way without much faith. Israel expresses regret that his sons told Joseph of Jacob's youngest son Benjamin. God is working behind the scenes from the beginning and only Joseph is aware of it. Read <u>2 Timothy 2:12-13</u>.

<u>Hebrews 3</u>: The charge is to remain faithful to God and to not lose confidence (freedom and openness in speech) and hope. We are to encourage one another not to lose heart. God is faithful and will accomplish what He has started. If we hope to enter His rest, free from worry, let us remember his faithfulness. Read <u>Psalm 100, Psalm 95:7-11</u>

Prayer Request Next Page

#### Monday Pray for:

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

# Tuesday, Nov. 7: Read Genesis 44, Hebrews 4

<u>Genesis 44</u>: Wow. How things have changed. The brothers have come to respect their father's love for their younger brother without jealousy. This too shall be the hope for believers, to love our Heavenly Father and not to be jealous of His love for others. God's love for others is not a slight against anyone. It does not lesson His love for you. Read <u>Luke 22:24-30</u>, <u>1 Corinthians 3:1-4</u>

<u>Hebrews 4</u>: The Sabbath is the seventh day, a day of rest after God finished His creation. It was the intended end. We are told that Jesus is our Sabbath, our intended rest, our destination to rest and trust in Him. Have you arrived to the Promise Land, the place God has promised to bring you? No matter where He sends you, go in obedience, rest in His provision for you. Do not go looking for rest, but rest in going. Read <u>Matthew 28:19-20</u>.

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

# Wednesday Nov. 8: Read Genesis 45, Hebrews 5

<u>Genesis 45:</u> Joseph reveals himself to his brothers. It is a personal gesture, first by words and then by showing himself to his brothers. Like Timothy, who doubted without seeing the nail prints in the hands of Jesus or the wound in His side, so Joseph reveals his circumcision as proof. God provides salvation for Israel and his family through Joseph his son, not in spite of their sins, but through their sin. In a similar way, God shows us salvation through our sins and not despite our sin. Read <u>Romans 2:28-29</u> and consider the change of heart in Joseph's brothers.

<u>Hebrews 5</u> We see that the high priest in times past "is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness." Even Jesus, appointed by God to be a high priest, "learned obedience from what he suffered." How can we be any different? We are to deal gently with those who are ignorant and go astray, and we are to learn from the things we suffer to trust in God. Read <u>2 Corinthians 1:3-11</u>.

#### Wednesday's Prayer Request Next Page:

# 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 work 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, Nov. 9: Read Genesis 46, Hebrews 6

Genesis 46: Jacob makes his way to Egypt but on his way his doubts are answered by God. God promises to go with him to Egypt and to bring him out. However, Joseph will close your eyes, said God. God's promise to Jacob is to bring Jacob's family out of Egypt as a great nation. They may have come to Egypt with a king's welcome but they settle in a land as shepherds, detestable to Egyptians. Read <u>John 15:18-20</u>

*Hebrews 6:* We are encouraged to not become lazy. Instead we are to be patient and have faith that we might inherit what God has promised. We are to mature in our understanding. God is not a means to our ends. He is the end to our means. We are encouraged to move beyond the elementary teaching of repentance from sin and to live out our faith in such a way we show his glory. Just as Jacob came to understand that his life had to do with God's plan, so we are to realize our lives are about God. God is not a good luck charm that we pray to for blessing. Read *Galatians 2:20* 

#### Thursday 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 a greater spirit of unity and cooperation.
- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.