

The Good Book

40 Chapters That Reveal the
Bible's Biggest Ideas

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 advice 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.*

Friday, February 9: Read [Genesis 22, Mark 1](#)

When God asks too much is the theme of this chapter. Sacrifice is an important concept in the Bible. Abraham, though he didn't understand what God was doing, was still willing to entrust to him the life of his "son of promise". God honored his faith and obedience and eventually sacrificed his only son, the ultimate Son of Promise, on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem. Verse 14 from two thousand years B.C. echoed forth at Calvary, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided". The Sacrificial Lamb acted as our substitute and paid for our sins with his own death.

Has God given you an assignment that seems like it is just too much? Can you set aside doubt, anxiety and the inability to understand what he is doing and simply trust him? Like Abraham, follow his leading and watch to see how he provides for you. Make [Romans 12:1-2](#) a model verse for your life and circumstances -- his will for you will be good, pleasing and perfect. He promises. Your own experience just might affirm Abraham's ancient credo, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided".

Notes:

Pray for Our Missionaries

Juan & Adriana Palacios (Angola, Africa), **David & Miriam Trott** (Cochabamba, Bolivia), **Mario Bloise** (Argentina), **Dan & DeAnn Gerard** (San Antonio, TX), **Robert and Kailey Newkirk** (South Sudan), **Mike and Fran VanBruggen** (South Africa), **Craig and Shelly Shafer** (Sentani, Indonesia), **Sue Sanders** (Detroit, MI), **Matt and Becky Kooi** (Tijuana), **Daniel Jezonski** (Wycliffe), **Andrew & Sara Williams** (New Tribes), **Brad and Christa Babjack** (InterVarsity), **Salomon and Megan Guzman** (Tijuana), **Alvaro and Rachel Garriga** (InterServe USA), **William and Salma Garcia** (Tijuana church plant)

Monday, February 5 Read [Genesis 1](#)

Between now and Easter we will pick up on a Bible reading plan developed by Deron Spoo called The Good Book -- 40 Chapters That Reveal the Bible's Biggest Ideas! Our reading will be a general survey of Old and New Testament themes, one chapter a day for 8 weeks. Each week we will have a general theme with five daily chapters to read in keeping with the main concept for that week.

The first theme for this week is "In the Beginning". Genesis chapter one suggests a novel idea for all of us -- of all his creation, humans stand out as unique, special, and most valuable. They alone are made in God's image and are put in charge of the rest of God's majestic creation. Like God, we have a spirit, moral awareness, free will and the capacity for relationships. And, like God, we can decide and do things that affect reality and direct our destiny. Thank God today for making you so valuable and unique. Ask him to use you to make a difference in the lives of those around you.

Notes:

Pray for: My relationship with God
My life roles
My personal needs/weak areas
My goals and objectives

Tuesday, February 6: Read [Genesis 3](#)

Though God made the universe good and perfect, something happened. Genesis 3 records the account When Everything Broke -- Including You. The origin of evil starts with the devil, who is called crafty. He tempts Eve to doubt God and act contrary to God's instructions. Both Eve and Adam comply. To be honest, we have as well! Because of sin, there's something wrong with everything. Notice not everything is wrong. Just everything has been tainted by man's sinful disobedience to God. As a result of sin, Adam and Eve are afraid and try to hide from God. But God searches them out and confronts the crisis they've created.

What are you afraid of? And what tactic have you invented to avoid (hide from) God? [1 John 1:5-9](#) might be excellent instructions for what you need to do next.

Note:

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday February 7: Read [Genesis 6](#)

Deron Spoo's topic for Genesis 6 is "Staying Afloat in Troubled Times". God grieved over the rampant wickedness of humanity, but he looked with favor on Noah and his family. Noah is described as righteous before God and blameless among men. He walked with God in a dark time. Verse 22 states that Noah did everything that God commanded him. Even so, his obedience led to years of struggle with his family's eventual escape from death and destruction.

Because of Jesus, God looks upon you with favor. He sees you as righteous and blameless in Christ. He can keep you afloat in troubled times and deliver you from ultimate death and destruction. Ask him for help today and be ready to do everything he commands you.

Notes:

Wednesday: Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

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.

- a. Worship: Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. Pray for this coming Sunday's service.
- b. Fellowship: Ask God to deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers.
- c. Discipleship: ask God to develop the faith, dedication, and leadership of our people. Pray for the children and youth ministries here at BGCC. Pray for our various small groups that meet each week.

- d. Outreach: Pray that God will use Bethel Gilead to make a positive impact on our community so that many would come to Christ. As God to help us to incorporate new people into our fellowship.
- e. Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for God's clear leading in 2018 and beyond.

Thursday, February 8: Read [Genesis 12](#)

Today's theme is "Faith isn't safe". The Mount Rushmore of the Bible would likely include the four faces of Abraham, Moses, David and Jesus. To understand the Bible, we need to understand the lives of these four men. Abraham is often called the Father of our faith. He is a model of ultimate trust in God, willing to leave everything and go whenever God calls him to do something. Following God is not necessarily comfortable. It's a challenge. It's a daily adventure of faith, not always knowing where God is leading us. [Hebrews 11:8-10](#) reminds us of this. Memorize [Hebrews 11:6](#) and ask God to help you to be more attentive and faithful to his daily leading in your life. Remember, he has a reward for all who earnestly seek him.

Notes:

Thursday Pray for "My World"

- Neighbors • People who live around me.
- People at work or out in the community • 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 this Sunday?
- 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.