

Friday, June 22: Read [Luke 9-10](#)

Luke nine and ten record two different mission trips. In both, Jesus is instructing his disciples on the basics of doing ministry. Both include a debriefing session with the Lord -- hearing their reports and affirming their efforts. Luke nine also records Jesus' transfiguration and a botched exorcism by the disciples. He's developing their character as seen in his emphasis on humility, unity, compassion and finally, true commitment to kingdom service.

Chapter ten includes one of Jesus' most famous stories -- the parable of the Good Samaritan. Notice that the context of this parable was the general attitude Jews held against Samaritans. Our assignment, like their's, is to lower our defenses and reach out to everyone in need, regardless of who they are or why they may be in trouble.

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**, (Word of Life), **Craig & Shelly Shafer** (Sentani, Indonesia), **Sue Saunders** (Bosnia), **Matt Kooi** (Tijuana), **Daniel Jezonski** (Wycliffe), **Andrew & Sara Williams** (Ethnos360), **Brad and Christa Babjack** (University of West Virginia), **Salomon and Megan Guzman** (Tijuana), **Alvaro and Rachel Garriga** (Central Asia)

Thru the New!

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.*

Monday, June 18 Read [Luke 1-2](#)

For the next two weeks, we will read the Gospel of Luke, followed in July by Luke's account of the early church -- The Acts of the Apostles. Luke was a medical doctor, a traveling companion of the Apostle Paul. His gospel emphasizes the perfect humanity of Christ, tracing his ancestry all the way back to Adam. The first two chapters of Luke include much early life history of Jesus not documented in the other gospel accounts. Read carefully the Psalms declaring God's majesty spoken by Mary, Zechariah and then Simeon. Their words give keen insight into the Jewish mindset of their day as they longed for a Messiah to deliver Israel.

Notes:

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

Tuesday, June 19: Read [Luke 3-4](#)

In chapter three, Luke introduces John the Baptist. John clarifies his role as the forerunner to Messiah and then baptizes Jesus, who is authenticated by both the Holy Spirit and the Father. Although we tend to skim genealogies and lists in the Bible, imagine the research necessary to trace Jesus' lineage back some 40 generations. A careful reading of the genealogy reveals numerous Old Testament characters along with many obscure names.

Chapter four records Jesus' testing in the desert followed by his "opening act" in his own hometown of Nazareth, fulfilling Isaiah's predictions about the Christ from [Isaiah 61:1-2](#). He receives a much better reception in Capernaum, which will become his headquarters for the next three years.

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday June 20: Read [Luke 5-6](#)

Luke records Jesus recruiting of his disciples in chapter five along with the miraculous healing of a leper and a paralytic. The chapter concludes with a parable relating the old and the new -- perhaps referring to the Old Covenant ways under Moses and the New Covenant way set forward by Jesus.

Luke chapter six includes much of what is referred to as the Sermon on the Mount. Here Jesus illustrates many of the new concepts of Christianity compared to the old Jewish rites and rituals. The new wine goes much deeper to the thoughts and motives of the heart, where the Judaism of Jesus' time was apparently much more outward and superficial.

**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 our 2020 plan. Pray for our upcoming 150th celebration. Ask God to use it as a testimony to Branch County.

Thursday, June 21: Read [Luke 7-8](#)

The healing of the centurion's servant is one of the outstanding examples of faith in the Bible. Outstanding because Jesus says it is. Note verse 9. What did the centurion do that we could emulate today? He simply took Jesus at his word. "Say the word and my servant will be healed." Our assignment today is not much different. To learn what Jesus says, and then to act accordingly. Raw faith is simple trust and dependence upon God. He later illustrates the power of faith in the forgiveness of the sinful woman (verses 36-50).

Chapter eight presents the parable of the sower and the seed as an explanation for why some people grow as Christians while others do not. The difference is not the sower or the seed, but simply the soil of the heart. Good soil responds to God's truth, while poor soil (for a variety of reasons) does not! (Note verse 21) Luke finishes the chapter with three faith building miracles demonstrating Jesus' power over demons, disease and death.

Notes:

Thursday Pray for "My World"

- 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 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.