

Friday, July 27: Read [Romans 5](#)

Romans 5 lays out several immediate fruits of salvation, namely peace, joy and perseverance. Knowing that we are right with God sets our hearts at ease and makes it possible to experience the joy God intended for us to feel. Peace and joy working within stabilize us and strengthen us to deal with life's trials and difficulties.

The chapter ends by reiterating the mechanics of justification and the resultant righteousness that we have been allotted through Christ. We are secure, in good standing with God, and considered right (fully righteous, perfect and complete) due to the gift (grace) God has given all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

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!

(Reading through the New Testament in 2018)

- *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.*

THE ROMANS ROAD

Monday, July 23 Read [Romans 1](#)

We will dedicate the next three weeks to reading through the book of Romans as a church. Our focus will be to "[Walk the Romans Road](#)". The basic theme of Romans is Righteousness: how to be right with God. The book can be divided into three sections dealing with salvation, sanctification and service. This week we will read chapters 1-5 and zero in on God's message of salvation.

In Chapter 1, Paul introduces himself as an Apostle of Christ. He immediately establishes that Jesus is dual-natured, having both a human and a Divine nature (Note [Luke 1:34](#)) Next, he lays out his plan to visit Rome and then begins his doctrinal exposition on the need for the gospel, namely the sinful state of humanity. Notice the natural digression of sin where God's wrath (judgment) falls on a wicked and obstinate world.

Notes:

Pray for: ---My relationship with God

---My life roles

---My personal needs/weak areas

---My goals and objectives.

Tuesday, July 24: Read [Romans 2](#)

In chapter one, Paul presented what we could call the “Immoral Man” Scenario ([Romans 1:18-32](#)). Now he expounds on two other types of people who are equally guilty before God -- “The Moral Man” (vs. 1-16) and “The Religious Man” (vs. 17-18). The Moral Man is the good, upstanding pagan who is nonetheless guilty of sin and condemned by God. The Religious Man is the “Law Abiding Jew” who even still does not comply with God’s righteous requirements necessary for salvation. His eventual conclusion is that all three types of people stand guilty of sin before God ([Romans 3:9, 19-20](#)).

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday July 25: Read [Romans 3](#)

Chapter 3 begins by God the Judge passing his verdict on humanity -- “Guilty”. All have sinned and fall short of the glory (perfect standard) of God (verse 23). This is where the Old Covenant ends and Christ’s New Covenant begins! Josh McDowell has entitled this “God’s Revolutionary Revelation of Righteousness”. Don’t miss it -- justification (making us righteous) come not by our effort but by our faith in what Jesus has done for us (v. 24). Jew or Gentile, his plan is universal. He will save all who trust in Jesus Christ’s redeeming work on our behalf.

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 our church anniversary as a testimony to Branch County.

Thursday, July 26: Read [Romans 4](#)

In Romans chapter 4, the Apostle Paul refers back to the patron saint of the Jews, Abraham, and demonstrates through his life that he was also justified by his faith in God, apart from his works. The principle that Paul illustrates is that God initiates, we respond in faith (trust) and God fulfills promises made.

Notice where circumcision fits in (v. 9-12), not before faith, but as “a sign” after faith. We could use the same illustration for baptism today with Christians. Baptism doesn’t save us, it shows outwardly that we are already saved by faith. And God credits our faith with a right standing before him which baptism (washing) symbolizes.

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.