

Friday, August 3: Read [*Romans 10*](#)

Romans 10 continues the simple premise that we are right with God through faith, but then it gives a formula for expressing faith, prayer. We believe in our heart but we confess belief with our mouth. Prayer to God expresses faith in every situation. This is true in our initial salvation, it is also true in our sanctification. Something good happens when we speak forth what we believe. Speaking also involves hearing, and hearing promotes believing. So God's design is that the message of salvation should be preached so that people everywhere can hear, believe and confess.

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 30 Read [*Romans 6*](#)

The next several chapters in Romans switch the theme from Salvation to Sanctification. Being sanctified is the process of being "saint-i-fied", made holy. It's a process of progress as we learn to defer to the Holy Spirit, working to make us more Christlike. Salvation is being made right with God. Sanctification is learning to live right for God.

Romans 6 presents a simple formula for overcoming the tendencies and temptations to sin. 1.) Know that Christ conquered the power of sin and that you are joined to him. 2.) Count yourself dead to sin but alive to God. You can now daily choose not to respond to sin's temptations. 3.) Offer your body parts (mind, tongue, hands, eyes, etc.) to God daily as instruments of righteousness. 4.) Actively choose to obey God as he leads you step by step.

Notes:

Pray for: ---My relationship with God

---My life roles

---My personal needs/weak areas

---My goals and objectives.

Tuesday, July 31: Read [Romans 7](#)

Romans chapter seven debunks the idea that “God helps those who help themselves”. The Apostle Paul states the fact that we are actually helpless and fully in need of the Lord in order to overcome the power of sin. We cannot keep God’s law by self effort. In Christ we have died to that system of religion and now live under grace. The law shows us our sin (failures) and leads us to Christ. If we strive to live up to God’s standards on our own effort, we will continually fail (verses 18-20).

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday August 1: Read [Romans 8](#)

Chapter eight picks up where seven left off. In seven the pronoun “I” is predominant. What “I” try to do for God. The “I” is now replaced with the “Spirit”. Chapter seven dealt with frustration and human failure, chapter eight deals with victory through the Holy Spirit. Read the chapter carefully, because it contains the only key to living a successful (victorious) Christian life -- the Holy Spirit. The simple choice for us daily is either to live in “the old way of the written code” (law) or in the new way of the Spirit. The last section of the chapter lays out the security of the believer due to the sovereignty of God. Nothing can separate you from the love of God.

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, August 2: Read [Romans 9](#)

Chapters nine and eleven arise in the book of Romans like a parenthesis. The theme has been “How to be right with God”. Now the Apostle Paul addresses the question, “What about the Nation of Israel”? They are God’s chosen people, but they don’t accept Christ. Are they right with God? Chapter nine further expounds on the sovereignty of God. He chooses to justify the Gentiles by faith, but he also chooses not to justify the Jews who live by the system of the works of the Law. Paul’s point -- God is just and fair. He can do whatever he desires. It is because of his mercy that we now stand justified in Jesus Christ. Chapter eleven will further develop the idea.

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.