

Friday, August 10: Read [Romans 15-16](#)

Paul begins chapter 15 where 14 left off, giving a plea for grace, unity and acceptance among the believers in Rome. Next he summarizes his calling to preach the gospel to the Gentiles, and then his plans to visit Rome on his way to Spain. He concludes the chapter with a plea for support -- financially and in prayer. Chapter 16 concludes the book of Romans with personal greetings to the believers in Rome. The list is made up of mostly Greek names, many of whom are known slaves in the city of Rome. Seven women are also mentioned among the workers in the various house groups listed. Paul concludes the letter with a warning -- to watch out for divisive people, a final set of greetings and a benediction.

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, August 6 Read [Romans 11](#)

In Romans chapter nine the Apostle Paul interjects the question of what about God's people, Israel. They don't believe in Christ, will they be saved? He further investigates that theme now in chapter eleven. First, he introduces the idea of the "Remnant", a smaller group within Israel who have always been faithful through the generations. From this base now salvation is offered to the Gentiles. The fact remains though that eventually all Israel will come to faith in Jesus as Messiah. We yet wait to see that fulfilled and assume it will occur around the time of Christ's second coming.

Notes:

Pray for: ---My relationship with God

---My life roles

---My personal needs/weak areas

---My goals and objectives.

Tuesday, August 7: Read [*Romans 12*](#)

Notice chapter twelve begins with “Therefore”. He is concluding a series of ideas and rounding the corner with a new section of his book going from salvation to sanctification to service. Romans 12-15 deal largely with how we are to be in right relationship with others, especially those in the body of Christ. This chapter begins with yielding our whole selves to God and then turning to serve those around us in Jesus’ stead. There are some excellent admonitions and instructions for our church to highlight. Start with yourself and let the text lead you into deeper, more effective service of others.

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday August 8: Read [*Romans 13*](#)

It is notable that Paul instructs the Roman Christians to submit to the governing authorities of the day. Recall that they were under a harsh Roman dictator but were instructed to obey the laws of the land and “do what is right”. Love again will be the measure of our true spirituality. Light is another metaphor for goodness. As Christians our relationships and our moral integrity stand out as evidence of God working in and through us.

**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 9: Read [*Romans 14*](#)

Disputes and disputable matters set the stage for this chapter. The church at Rome was a mixed church of Jews and Gentiles. As such, there was ample opportunity for conflicts related to religious practices, preferences and beliefs. Paul deals briefly with three of those in this chapter -- unclean foods, Sabbath days and drinking wine. He sets forth the principle of faith (trust in God) as a guideline for conscience in light of doing or not doing something. The second principle is love; to do or not to do something for someone else’s conscience sake. Verse 19 suggests that the goal in the church is to seek peaceful relationships and mutual edification in the faith. Faith and love also serve us today as we learn to relate to one another with some notable differences in our beliefs, practices and opinions. We would do well to revisit Romans 14 whenever conflicts arise over disputable (non-black and white) matters.

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.