Friday, September 28: Read *Galatians 6*

The final chapter of Galatians emphasizes several ways that faith can be practiced both on a personal level and interpersonally. Paul's emphasis on personal choices and their consequences (sowing and reaping) reminds us of our daily responsibility to obey God and live out our faith. His admonition in verse 9 and 10 is to "do good". What consequences are you reaping from recent choices? If you are not seeing fruit in doing good, keep doing good anyway. A harvest will eventually come!

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 advise 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, September 24 Read Galatians 1-2

This week we will study the book of Galatians. In this letter, the Apostle Paul writes to new Christians in Asia Minor who are being troubled by a group of Jewish Christians known as "Judaizers". The Judaizers claim that you must become a Jew in order to be a true Christian. Paul's theme for the book is freedom in Christ. He challenges the Galatians not to submit to the Jewish laws (legalism), but to stand firm in the truth that we are justified by grace through faith, and not by following Old Testament laws.

Do you understand the true gospel and the freedom God offers you in Jesus Christ? Are you in right standing with God by faith in what Jesus has done for you? Can you affirm the truth of Galatians 2:20 as your daily experience?

Notes:

Pray for: --- My relationship with God

- ---My life roles
- ---My personal needs/weak areas
- ---My goals and objectives.

Tuesday, September 25: Read *Galatians 3*

Paul reminds the Galatians that the Christian life is to be lived in the power of the Spirit, and not in one's own energy (*Galatians 5:16, Ephesians 5:18*). He reminds them that the law makes us into sinners (lawbreakers) because no one can keep God's perfect standards. And so we feel our need for a Savior. Our new assignment is not to follow rules and regulations (the law) but to follow a person, Jesus Christ. This is possible through faith in the promises of God fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Can you step out in faith today, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide and direct you from within? Ask him to do so now.

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday September 26: Read Galatians 4

Chapter four emphasizes our new identity -- no longer slaves, we are now sons and daughters of God. Paul's admonition is to act like a son, not like a slave! You cannot be under the law and under grace at the same time. Under grace we now live by the promises of God fulfilled in Jesus Christ and lived out in us as we daily trust him. Thank God today that he sees you as his child. Ask him to help you to live out your new identity in Christ.

Wednesday: Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

- 1. <u>Leadership</u>: 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. Pray for the church council and the various ministry team leaders.
- Worship: Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise and thanksgiving.
 Pray for the development of a youth praise team.
- Fellowship: Ask God to deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers.
- 4. <u>Discipleship</u>: Ask God to develop the faith, dedication, and leadership of our people. Pray for the children and youth ministries at BGCC. Pray for our small group ministry.
- 5. <u>Outreach</u>: Pray that God will use Bethel Gilead to make a positive impact on our community so that many would come to Christ. Ask God to embolden our people to intentionally reach out to others.
- 6. <u>Future Faith Goals</u>: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for our upcoming 150th anniversary celebration. Ask God to use our church anniversary as a testimony to Branch County. Pray for God's clear leading in our upcoming 2020 plan.

Thursday, September 27: Read *Galatians 5*

In Galatians five, Paul contrasts the life lived in the flesh (selfish nature) versus the life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. One produces disillusionment and death, the other life and peace (*Romans 8:6*). You have a choice each day, whether to obey God and walk by faith in the Holy Spirit's power, or to live by your own effort and resources. Paul contrasts the differences in verses 19-23. Your assignment -- keep in step with the Holy Spirit! (verse 25) Ask him to prompt you from within as you go about your day. Stop and consult with him at any point that you are uncertain what to do. He will produce fruit in and through you to the measure that you trust him.

Notes:

Thursday Pray for "My World"

(Write down names as God brings people to mind.)

- 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.