

Friday, October 12: Read [*Philemon 1*](#)

From the book of Philippians, let's switch over to Paul's letter to Philemon. This short, one chapter letter also written from prison in Rome, encourages a Christian Master, Philemon, to receive his runaway slave, Onesimus, back into his household. Onesimus has become a Christian in Rome. He has been an encouragement to the Apostle Paul while under house arrest. Paul now invokes Philemon to forgive his debt and to restore their relationship now as Christian brothers. Oral traditions relate that Onesimus returns to Colosse where he is set free by Philemon and eventually becomes a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

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.*

Monday, October 8 Read [*Philippians 1*](#)

The Apostle Paul writes to the Philippian believers from prison in Rome. His theme, however, is joy. Rejoice always, even in prison! He had planted the church several years earlier ([*Acts 16:14-34*](#)) and now writes to encourage them to live out their faith, especially in the face of opposition and even suffering on account of the gospel. Take time to pray for yourself Paul's prayer recorded in verses 9-11. Ask God to fill your heart with his supernatural peace, love and joy.

Notes:

Pray for: ---My relationship with God

---My life roles

---My personal needs/weak areas

---My goals and objectives.

Tuesday, October 9: Read [*Philippians 2*](#)

Chapter two begins with a call to unity, humility and love. Verses 5-11 point to Jesus Christ as the ultimate example for all, now deserving of our full allegiance and praise. Following his example, we are to live in obedience, unity and purity. Paul himself, along with Timothy and Epaphroditus, remains steadfast in service to God regardless of dangers he faces.

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday October 10: Read [*Philippians 3*](#)

Chapter three switches focus to living out our faith as followers of Christ. He warns against the Judaizers (legalism) and commends us to live by faith in Jesus' righteousness, keeping him at the center of our affections and actions. Like Paul, our goal ought to be to know and honor Jesus Christ with one eye on our final destiny in glory.

Wednesday: Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

1. **Leadership**: 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.
2. **Worship**: Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Pray for the development of a youth praise team.
3. **Fellowship**: Ask God to deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers.
4. **Discipleship**: 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. **Outreach**: 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. **Future Faith Goals**: 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, October 11: Read [*Philippians 4*](#)

Apparently there was a quarrel at Philippi between two leaders, Euodia and Synteche. Paul stresses agreement and unity for the sake of the gospel. Verses 4-9 spell out what is the heritage of every believer in Christ -- the people of God. Study carefully these verses and act on them, confessing anxiety, releasing burdens to God and claiming his peace (sense of inner wellbeing) in spite of your present circumstances. Note the promises for you today in verse 7 and 9. If necessary, write down this section of scripture, keep it near daily to refer to when tempted to fret. Commit the words to memory. They will serve you well during life's inevitable storms. You might want to add verses 13 and 19 to your memory verse list from Philippians as well.

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.