

**Friday**, December 14: Read [\*Romans 7-8\*](#)

Romans 7 presents the possible scenario of a Christian who still struggles with sinful habits. Paul's advise is to let go of the old focus on the "law of sin", which invariably condemns us and weakens our resolve to live victoriously. We will not conquer by the power of our will, but rather by the power of the cross. This power is now available through the Holy Spirit (chapter 8) who resides within and who will empower and lead us as we daily trust him. Verses 18-38 finish with the declaration of both the sovereignty of God and the security of the believer.

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), ***Craig & Shelly Shafer*** (Sentani, Indonesia), ***Sue Saunders*** (Bosnia), ***Matt and Becky Kooi*** (Tijuana), ***Daniel Jezowski*** (Wycliffe), ***Andrew & Sara Williams*** (Ethnos360), ***Brad and Christa Babjack*** (University of West Virginia), ***Salomon and Megan Guzman*** (Tijuana), ***Alvaro and Rachel Garriga*** (Central Asia), ***William and Salma Garcia*** (Tijuana)

# *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**, December 10 Read [\*Hebrews 11\*](#)

Often referred to as "the Hall of Faith", Hebrews 11 exemplifies trusting God through a historic look back at the lives of many of the outstanding Old Testament saints. The premise is they all lived their lives "by faith", trusting God to work in and through their various circumstances, some of which were quite challenging. Their experiences encourage us today to carry on; to live our lives daily trusting in God's sovereignty and providence. He still reward those who dare to trust him (verse 6)!

Notes:

**Pray for:** ---My relationship with God

---My life roles

---My personal needs/weak areas

---My goals and objectives.

## Tuesday, December 11: Read [Hebrews 12](#)

Chapter 12 picks up from the previous chapter, encouraging us now to run the same race those saints before us ran. The key is to keep Jesus in focus! The Author encourages us to view difficulties as God disciplining (training) us. Some of our biggest lessons will come through hardship, even adversity. The final admonition is to pay more attention to what we are about as God's people. Much is at stake here on earth and we cannot afford to be lax or negligent.

**Pray for family and friends by name.**

## Wednesday December 12: Read [Hebrews 13](#)

The book of Hebrews ends with a series of admonitions and final instructions to "stay the course" and to be "faithful to our great high priest, Jesus." It ends with several greetings from the believers in Italy, probably Rome, where the epistle was writing this letter.

### **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. 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, December 13: Read [Romans 5-6](#)

Let's take the two final days of this week to review our recent study of the book of Romans. Chapters 5 and 6 switch the focus from the topic of salvation to the practical application of our salvation in the area of sanctification.

The life of Christ has purchased more than our forgiveness of sins and a place in heaven, it has prepared the way for us to be able to live for God in the here and now. Pay close attention to what God offers us now and how we are to apply it to our lives each day. Chapter 6 is especially helpful in giving practical instruction on how to overcome present temptations to sin.

### **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.