

Friday, January 4: Read [2 Peter 3](#)

Peter finishes his epistle with a reminder of his reason for writing -- to stimulate you to wholesome thinking (Note [1 Peter 1:13](#)). We are to hold on to the scripture and the words of Christ. The end times are approaching and the day of the Lord will come unexpectedly upon the world. In light of this truth, we are to live holy, godly, blameless lives; at peace with God and men. We should also maintain our guard against error and lawlessness and grow in the grace of God and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, 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), **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 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, December 31 Read [1 Peter 4](#)

We continue this week in the books of first and second Peter. 1 Peter 4 revisits the theme of suffering for being a Christian. Peter assumes all Christians will suffer the consequences of trying to live for God in a godless world. He calls for a Christlike attitude, clear thinking, self control, perseverance and a determination to do good in the face of evil. Notice the call to serve others with spiritual gifts in verses 10-11. It is ultimately our responsibility to discern our gift and use it in a way that honors God and edifies others.

Notes:

Pray for: ---My relationship with God

---My life roles

---My personal needs/weak areas

---My goals and objectives.

Tuesday, January 1: Read [1 Peter 5](#)

Chapter five finishes the book with an appeal for right Christian relationships within the church. He especially pinpoints the elders (pastors) and their need for pure motives in ministry. Humility and mutual submission ought to be the norm among believers. Verses 8-9 give a simple recipe for defeating the devil in his schemes against believers. Humility, self control, alertness and verbal resistance will overcome temptation and spiritual opposition.

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday January 2: Read [2 Peter 1](#)

Peter writes his second epistle from prison in Rome. He knows that his execution approaches so he writes with a sense of urgency, yet joy and expectation. Chapter one is an exhortation to confirm one's calling by living out the faith with confidence in God and the virtues of Christ. He reminds his audience of his personal experience with Jesus at his transfiguration and of the value of the prophetic scriptures that point to the eventual return of Christ.

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: Pray that God would deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers. Pray that we incorporate newcomers into our church fellowship.
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, especially during this Christmas season and beyond.
6. Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for God's clear leading in our upcoming 2020 plan.

Thursday, January 3: Read [2 Peter 2](#)

Chapter two aims at warning believers against false teachers and destructive heresies. He points to the demise of demons, of Noah's generation, and of Sodom and Gomorrah as examples of judgment upon those who reject God's truth and follow evil. He also typifies false teachers as arrogant, slanderous, licentious, sinful, greedy and unstable. Their lives and their teaching lead to bondage and ultimate destruction. His exhortation for believers is to "be on your guard" against them!

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.