

**Friday**, April 12: Read [\*Psalms 79-80, Eccl. 10\*](#)

Both Psalm 79 and 80 are Psalms of petition, asking God to come to the rescue of the nation. The repeated plea in chapter 80 reflects the sentiment of both Psalms—Restore us, O God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we might be saved!

Ecclesiastes 10 sets forth a series of proverbs decrying folly and the futility of foolishness.

### Notes:

### Pray for Our Missionaries

**Juan & Adriana Palacios** (Angola, Africa), **David & Miriam Trott** (Cochabamba, Bolivia), **Mario Bloise** (Argentina), **Dan & DeAnn Gerard** (San Antonio, TX), , **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 church plant)

07 APRIL  
SUNDAY  
2019



Be the CHURCH is DISCIPLESHIP

### Spiritual Disciplines Guide: **Reading through Psalms and Ecclesiastes**

- 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**, April 8 Read [\*Psalm 71-27, Eccl. 6\*](#)

Psalm 71 has often been referred to as the Psalm for old age (v.9,18). It's a classic lament psalm where the author (David?), describes his negative circumstances and then looks to God for help and deliverance. Note the change of tone in verse 14. Psalm 72 is one of two Psalms of King Solomon recorded in scripture. As a "Royal Psalm," Solomon prays for the prosperity of the king and the success of his reign over the earth. Mirrored in this Psalm is the coming rule of Messiah. Can you perceive it?

We continue this week reading through the book of Ecclesiastes as Solomon asks the existential question, "What's worth doing in life?" Chapter 6 laments the lack of meaning and satisfaction life provides, in spite of what one attains or achieves. The quest for ultimate meaning and good persists.

### Notes:

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

—My life roles

—My personal needs/weak areas

—My goals and objectives.

**Tuesday**, April 9: Read [\*Psalms 73-74, Eccl. 7\*](#)

Psalms 73 marks the beginning of the third volume of songs, starting with eleven psalms, written by Asaph. While named here, 1 Chronicles 6:31-32, 39 reveals that Asaph was one of the Levites assigned by King David to lead worship and play music in the tabernacle at Jerusalem. The sons of Asaph would continue this service under Solomon, when the Temple was eventually built.

Ecclesiastes reflects the words of Proverbs that deal with the virtues of attaining wisdom. Even so, wisdom cannot solve Solomon's dilemma of meaninglessness.

**Tuesday: pray for family and friends by name.**

**Wednesday** April 10: Read [\*Psalms 75-76, Eccl. 8\*](#)

The next two Psalms extol God's greatness and glory. Asaph writes Psalm 75 in the first person as if God is declaring things through his writing. Psalm 76 continues the theme of God's renown and splendor. Let there be no doubt who God is and all that he can do. As verse 11 declares, therefore make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them!

Chapter 8 of Ecclesiastes is a collection of observations about what is good and what is not. Solomon extols obedience, knowledge and righteous living, though he admits that there is definite advantage to living life with wisdom. The foolish and wicked at times prosper, in spite of their foolishness and wickedness.

**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. Ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up more workers for the harvest ([\*Matthew 9:38\*](#))
2. **Worship:** Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Pray for more musicians to help lead the church in worship. 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. Ask God to bless our small group ministry, to raise up new groups, new teachers and more leaders.
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 through the Kingdom Initiative.
6. **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 as we call our members to a greater love and commitment to the Lord and his service. Ask God to bless our finances so that we can better accomplish his purposes for our congregation.

**Thursday**, April 11: Read [\*Psalms 77-78, Eccl. 9\*](#)

In Psalm 77, the author bemoans his suffering and questions God's love and faithfulness. The tone changes in verse 10 when he chooses to meditate on who God is and all that God has done. Again, we would do well to learn from this pattern laid out in so many of the Psalms. Acknowledge your personal distress and difficult circumstances, and then refocus your attention on God, his acts and his attributes.

Psalms 78 is one of the several historic Psalms, rehearsing what God has done in the past on behalf of the nation of Israel, starting with Moses's time up to the days of David.

Chapter 9 of Ecclesiastes declares the inevitable destiny of all wise or foolish, righteous or wicked—death. The grave awaits all living things and reminds us of the brevity of our lives on earth and according to Solomon's point of view, the ultimate futility of human endeavors.

**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.