Friday, May 3: Read *Psalms* 109-110, Job 9-10

Psalm 109 is actually a prayer for God to avenge King David's enemies for all the grief they've shown him. Notice the continually repreated word -- May. David is asking God over and over to let 'em have it! In the New Testament Jesus now calls us to love, forgive and bless our enemies (Matthew 5:38-48)

Psalm 110 is another Messianic Psalm. It foreshadows the rule of Christ, including his ascension to heaven, his priestly role, his diety and his future judgement of the nations. Note its similarity to Psalm 2.

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)

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Spiritual Disciplines Guide:

- 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, April 29 Read <u>Psalms 101-102</u>, <u>Job 1-2</u>

Psalm 101 is a pledge of David to live a holy life. In practically every verse, he identifies one more way that he will seek to honor God with his life, all in response to the love and justice of God.

Psalm 102 is identified as a prayer of an afflicted man, a lament poured out to God. In it, he lays out the struggle of his life and rehearses the character of God and his faithfulness to him. It is a good example of both human suffering and divine intervention.

The book of Job wrestles with the reality of human suffering and God's sovereignty. Read it pensively over the next month of our spiritual disciplines. Notice that the advice of Job's colleagues does not necessarily represent the truth of God, but rather the best ideas of men in the face of suffering and pain.

Notes:

Pray for: —My relationship with God

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

Tuesday, April 30: Read Psalms 103-104, Job 3-4

Psalms 103 and 104 are both Psalms of praise, extolling the many virtues of God for which we ought to all be mindful and grateful. Both begin and conclude with the phrase "Praise the Lord", translated from the Hebrew Hallelujah!

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday May 1: Read Psalms 105-106, Job 5-6

Psalm 105 is a historic psalm, recounting many of the ways God attended to the needs of Israel in past times. Remembering what God has done for us in the past moves us to a greater attitude of praise and thanksgiving.

Psalm 106 is another historic Psalm. This time, however, it replays many of the ways Israel failed God in the past. Even so, God was patient and merciful to them over and over again. And so, from everlasting to everlasting, let the Lord be praised!

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. Ask the Lord of the harvest to raise up more workers for the harvest (*Matthew 9:38*)
- 2. <u>Worship</u>: 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. <u>Fellowship</u>: 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. <u>Discipleship</u>: 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.
- 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. <u>Future Faith Goals</u>: 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, May 2: Read Psalms 107-108, Job 7-8

Psalm 107 lays out four different scenarios where people came into crisis, whether by their own fault or by circumstance. In each case, they came to the end of themselves and called out to God for help. In each case, God rescued them, meriting their Thanksgiving and praise for his unfailing love and hs wonderful deeds for men.

Psalm 108 is a powerful song of praise to God for his love, faithfulness and deliverance. The end result is a greater sense of confidence in the face of conflict. With God, we will gain the victory (verse 13)!

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.