Friday, May 17 Read *Psalms 129-130, Job 29-30*

Psalm 129 offers a little different twist from the more typical and festive songs of ascent. This psalm calls for curses on all who oppress Israel and hate Zion. For doing so, they relinquish their blessing.

Psalm 130 appeals to all those who are looking to God in hope of his help and deliverance. It's a song of waiting, like a watchman, looking for morning to arrive. We are admonished to put our hope fully in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and full redemption.

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)





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, May 13 Read *Psalms 121-122, Job 21-22*

In Psalm 121, the author depicts God as a watchman who guards our lives continuously. This song, along with the following 12 or 13 Psalms, are songs sung by the Israelites when they journeyed to Jerusalem for one of their annual festivals. They are titled songs of ascent because Jerusalem was high on a hill above the rest of the landscape of Israel. Psalm 122 is a good example of this idea -- pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Continue reading through the book of Job. Don't miss the humanity of the book -- the human struggle to find meaningful reason in suffering. There's something familiar here for all of us, especially those subject to chronic pain. Look too for the "snippets" of God's grace and truth. It's there if you look for it, and will become more apparent towards the end of the book.

Notes:

Pray for: —My relationship with God

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

Tuesday, May 14: Read *Psalms 123-124, Job 23-24*

Psalms 123 and 124 are both calls to the Lord for relief and deliverance. Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. Look to him for mercy and trust him for his help.

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday May 15: Read <u>Psalms 125-126, Job 25-26</u>

Psalm 125 and 126 continue on the virtues of Mount Zion (Jerusalem), the city of God. The promise of God is that those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. And those who go out weeping carrying seeds to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them!

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.

<u>Thursday</u>, May 16: Read <u>Psalms 127-128</u>, <u>Job 27-28</u>

Psalm 127 is an often read wedding Psalm, a reminder to those who venture forth in wedlock and family life that God is the ultimate architect of our future. We must defer to him in order not to labor in vain.

Psalm 128, like the previous Psalm, is a song of blessing upon a godly household. God is encouraging families to fear (revere) him and so to experience his presence and blessings in their home life -- peace, prosperity and posterity are available for all who trust him.

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.