Friday, May 24 Read *Psalms 139-140, Job 39-40*

Psalm 139 is an outstanding declaration of the intimate knowledge of God and his attention to detail in the life of each individual. He is all-knowing. He knows all about us. He is aware of how we think and feel and what we are going through. And, he loves and cares for us. Verses 23-24 is a prayer asking God to work within our hearts and lead us in his ways.

Psalm 140 is a prayer of protection, asking God to guard us from danger and the schemes of evil men. The Psalmist's confidence is ultimately the upright will live secure in the Lord's presence and care.

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 20 Read *Psalms 131-132, Job 31-32*

Psalm 131, the second shortest Psalm is a Psalm of Ascents, another song to be sung as the Jews made their way to Jerusalem for annual festivals. Psalm 132, also a song of ascent, mentions David numerous times as the token saint of Jerusalem, the one the Lord swore would see a successor reign forever.

Continue your reading of Job. Notice his piety and patience waning as time goes on. Pay attention to Elihu's words as well (chapters 33 and 37). He's the only one of Job's companions that was not exhorted by the Lord for his poor counsel.

Notes:

Pray for: —My relationship with God

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

Tuesday, May 21: Read *Psalms 133-134, Job 33-34*

Psalms 133 is a classic Unity Psalm. Christians over the centuries have referred to this particular Psalm, along with Jesus' prayer for unity in John 17, when encouraging churches and Christians to draw together for fellowship, support and mutual service. Psalm 134, another short Psalm, extols the virtues and benefits of serving as a Levite in the temple, or tabernacle, of the Lord.

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday May 22: Read <u>Psalms 135-136</u>, <u>Job 35-36</u>

Psalm 135 makes a case for both why we should praise the Lord (what he does that deserves recognition) and for how we ar to praise him. The Psalmist also compares the God of Israel to the gods of the nations, idols that cannot see or speak or act. He alone is worthy of praise.

Psalm 136 is an ancient call and response invoking praise and thanksgiving to God, above all things, because his love endures forever. Aren't you glad for that!

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 (<u>Matthew 9:38</u>)
- 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. <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.
- 5. <u>Outreach</u>: 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 23: Read <u>Psalms 137-138, Job 37-38</u>

Psalm 137 is a lament psalm written long after King David at the time of the Babylonian exile. It was included in Israel's hymnbook as a record of the 70 years that the southern kingdom was taken off the land.

Psalm 138 is a praise psalm declaring God's personal love and faithfulness and his purpose for each person. Read it carefully and reflect on God's attention to you and your life.....the Lord will fulfill his purpose for me.

Note the discourse of Elihu ends with Job 37 and God takes the witness stand to defend himself beginning with chapter 38. He responds to Job's musings and wonderings with a series of questions that continue for the next several chapters. The point is that God is wise and sovereign; and Job is neither!

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.