

**Friday**, September 6 Read [Acts 2:41-47; 4:32-35](#)

The Christian life cannot be lived in a vacuum. There are no “lone ranger Christians”. When God saves us, he puts us into his body the church and intends for us to grow and develop in the context of Christian fellowship. Go back to the first century church. Notice what those first Christians routinely did in Jerusalem. How dedicated are you to the fellowship of believers? Note [Romans 12:4-8](#) says that we are members of one another and that we are to give and receive service and support the body of Christ. Are you growing in Christian relationships? If not, maybe this is the year that God wants to more fully develop that area of your life. Ask him to show you what ministry function you can better fulfill in the church. Be ready to follow his lead. Others are dependent on your encouragement and support!

**Friday: 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** (Ethiopia), **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)

01 September  
SUNDAY  
2019



Be the CHURCH is DISCIPLESHIP

**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 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.*

Last week we zeroed in on the concept of Salvation. For the next five days, let's review some of what the Bible says about Sanctification. Once we are saved from the power and penalty of sin, God begins to develop our faith, our character and our relationships. Sanctification is simply growing in Christ-likeness. Where salvation is a one time crisis, sanctification is a daily process.

**Monday**, September 2 Read [Matthew 13:1-43](#)

In this chapter, Matthew records several parables dealing with growth. What does the soil represent in the first parable? How was the “good soil” different from the other three soil types? According to Jesus' interpretation in verses 19-22, what keeps people from growing in their faith? Which of these challenges your spiritual growth today? What “crops” does God expect you to produce (verse 23)? (Note [John 15:4-8](#)) Are you growing in fruitfulness for God?

\*Read [Galatians 5:22-23](#). Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to grow in your faith. Ask him to produce Christlike character in and through your life. Watch today for how he will lead you to step out in faith.....follow his lead!

**Monday: Pray for:** —My relationship with God  
—My life roles  
—My personal needs/weak areas  
—My goals and objectives for the summer

## Tuesday, September 3: Read [Ephesians 4-5](#)

The Apostle Paul is instructing the believers in Ephesus how to live out their faith. Carefully study Paul's admonitions -- what to do and what to stop doing. Which of these apply to your life circumstances today? Note the importance of the Holy Spirit's power to live right (Ephesians 5:18). Once again, ask the Holy Spirit to help you to "live a life worthy of your calling". Be ready to do what God shows you through your personal study -- whether its renouncing certain sins, forgiving someone you're angry with, or changing the way to talk to others. God will bless your obedience.

**Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.**

## Wednesday September 4: Read [Romans 6](#)

Part of sanctification includes breaking old habit patterns and developing new, positive, God-honoring ones. Notice Paul's "formula for success" in this chapter. First, you need to know what Christ's death has accomplished for you. (verses 1-10) Next you need to count yourself dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus (verse 11). Do you believe that sin no longer has dominion (power's right to rule) over you? Your life is God's. He wants to live in and through you!

Finally, refuse temptation and sin access to your mind. Offer your individual body parts to serve God daily as his instruments for doing right. (Note [Romans 8:12-17](#)). Again, invite the Holy Spirit to empower and direct your thoughts, attitudes and actions throughout the day. As necessary, offer your "members" to God for doing good. He will help you.

### **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, September 5: Read [Colossians 3](#)

Like some of our previous readings, this chapter majors on things God wants us to do in order to live as he desires us to. Work through the passage. Note the various admonitions to stop doing certain things and to start doing others. Pay especially close attention to how God wants us to relate our attitudes and actions towards people in daily interactions and relationships. Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you of any areas or actions where you are out of line. Submit those to God and trust him to redirect you according to his will.

### **Thursday: Pray for "My World"**

(Write down names as God brings people to mind.)

- Neighbors • People who live around me. (Focus Four)
- 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?
- Community -- 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.
- America -- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.