

**Friday**, September 13: Read [Ephesians 4:11-16](#)

One last service that we'll consider is that of developing Christian leadership. Leadership, in essence, is influence. God wants all of us to influence others ([Matthew 5:14-16](#)). The five leadership gifts mentioned in Ephesians 4 all work toward building up Christians in order that they can function in Christ's body and serve (influence) others. Note also, Paul's service makes a difference in his ministry at Ephesus. Of special note is his character (verse 12). Who is looking to you for leadership? Who can you influence for Christ? When you serve someone else's needs, you lead them. Don't shrink back from the idea of being a leader. If you are a Christian, you already are! You are salt and light to your generation. Shine forth!

**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)

08 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.*

The past two weeks we've reviewed the basic principles of salvation and sanctification. This week, we will consider service and how it fits into our Christian life. Galatians 5:13 reads: "Do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature, rather serve one another in love". What kind of loving service does God expect from us? Let's see!

**Monday**, September 9 Read [Titus 2-3](#)

Paul instructs Titus to energize the Christians in Crete to do good works. Note the word *good*, and *doing good* in these two chapters. [Ephesians 2:10](#) states that God has saved us, in part, to do good works. Not for our salvation, but as a result of it! Take some time to consider what specific good works you are doing for God's kingdom. People everywhere need all kinds of help and assistance. Who are you helping? For the Christian, this starts at home, but it doesn't stay there! We should be actively serving in our local church and also in our community. Ask God to reveal what good works he wants you to be doing and where you could better serve. Be ready for him to guide you as you consider opportunities to serve.

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

## Tuesday, September 10: Read [1 Peter 4:8-11](#)

According to Peter, what is the purpose of spiritual gifts? It's possible spiritual gifts could be divided into two categories -- speaking gifts and service gifts. Which of the two more likely fits your experiences of helping others so far? Now read [Romans 12:3-8](#) and [1 Corinthians 12:1-11](#). Note again the function of spiritual gifts -- for others' benefit. List the gifts mentioned in both passages. Which gift or gifts best pertain to you? If you're not sure, you might ask a spouse, family member or close friend to suggest which spiritual gift they believe you possess. If you still are not sure, ask Pastor Jim for a Spiritual Gift Inventory. God wants you to discover and develop your spiritual gift. There's a ministry waiting for you and it fits your gifting. If you haven't found it yet, let's pray and seek God's direction for where you can better serve in His kingdom.

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

## Wednesday September 11: Read [2 Corinthians 8-9](#)

Giving is part of the Christian life. God wants all of us to be generous and considerate of the needs of others, ready to share from the blessings we ourselves have received. Study these two chapters. Ask God if you could better serve him with the resources (finances) he's given you. Be ready to follow his lead if he prompts you to step out in faith and give more to meet others' needs. He'll bless you for it! (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

**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 12: Read [Luke 10:1-12](#)

Perhaps the greatest service we can do for God and others is to share our faith. Luke records a kind of short term missions trip in chapter 10. Jesus sends 72 people out to canvas the towns and villages ahead of his campaign. Notice the specific instructions he gave them. Why sheep among wolves? Is that true today? In what sense is the harvest plentiful in our community? Can God count you in as one of his workers? What would it take for you to go next door or down the street to share your faith with a needy neighbor and invite them to church? Why don't you ask God today to open your heart to someone who needs him? Ask him to send you out like Jesus did in Luke 10. The kingdom of God is near. Share it!

**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.