

Friday, September 27: Read [Revelation 2-3](#)

Known as the Seven Churches of Asia Minor, chapters 2 and 3 of Revelation includes insightful information as to how God sees congregations -- both his affirmations and encouragement, as well as his warnings. Read about each church. Note how they were doing, what is affirmed, what they are admonished in and what God promises them if they overcome. Do any of these churches remind you of the state of the church at present in America? How about our congregation? God has called us to “be the church”. Let’s ask him to show us in what ways we can better honor and serve him here at Bethel Gilead.

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** (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)

22 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.*

Monday, September 23 Read [Ephesians 1:15-23](#); [Col. 1:15-18](#), [1 Timothy 3:14-16](#); [5:17](#); [Matthew 16:18](#)

Our continued theme this week as part of our 2020 commitment is to Be the Church. Note the passages listed in today's reading. What is God's ideal for the church? How did he design the church to function and with what intended result? And how are we doing as a local church congregation? Are we living up to our calling? What can we improve? Be ready to share any insights from your study with our adult ed class this coming Sunday.

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

Tuesday, September 24: Read [Acts 2:41-47; 4:31-35](#)

Pay close attention to the first church of Jerusalem. She is our “mother ship”, so to say. What was that church like? How was it organized? Where did they meet? What does Acts say they were dedicated to? What impact did they have on nonbelievers in Jerusalem? Use the Jerusalem church as a prototype to evaluate our own activities and ministries. How are we like them today? In what ways might the modern church be different?

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday September 25: Read [1 Corinthians 1:1-10, 26-31](#)

Now look at the church in Corinth. How does the Apostle Paul describe that congregation? What were their strengths? What were their weaknesses? Note [2 Corinthians 8:7](#). How could we use that list today to measure our own church ministries? Where are we doing well and where do we need to improve? Our assignment is to be his church in Branch County.

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. Pray through this past Sunday’s congregational prayer requests.
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 26: Read [Ephesians 4:1-16](#)

Notice Paul’s emphasis both on unity and diversity in this chapter. What is it that unites us with other believers as the church? (In what ways are we “one”?) In what ways are Christians different from one another? According to verse 13, 15 and 16, what role does the church play in spiritual development? Can someone “grow up to maturity” outside the church? Are we helping people grow spiritually? What could we do better in the discipleship department?

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.