

Friday, January 10: Read [Matthew 9:35 - 10:16](#)

A third 2020 commitment is to “*Extend the Kingdom*”. Our assignment as disciples of Jesus is to go out and make more disciples. We are his representatives in our community. God has gifted us with his Spirit to empower us as witnesses to serve other’s needs in his name. Do you have a “soft spot” in your heart for a certain need or ministry in the area? Could that “soft spot” indicate your “sweet spot” where you could most effectively serve in some capacity? If you are not currently involved in some specific ministry or service outside the church, why not ask God to show you where you could best help out in the coming year? Take note below of ideas that come to mind. Our assignment as ambassadors of Jesus Christ is to extend the kingdom. Let’s do it!

*Possible ways I could extend the kingdom in 2020:

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)

Week of
January 5
2020



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, January 6 Read [Ephesians 4:1-3](#)

In the English language, we use *vocation* and *occupation* interchangeably. Technically though, there's a difference between the words. *Occupation* is what you do, what occupies your time. A job is considered an occupation. *Vocation* comes from the Latin *vocare*, which means *calling*. Your calling is your life purpose, what you contribute to the world. Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:1 that we are to live up to our calling! Take some time to contemplate your calling. Prayerfully write your answers and consider their significance in light of this new year.

What kind of person has God called me to be?

What is God calling me to do in 2020 and beyond?

Monday: Pray for yourself:

- My relationship with God
- My life roles and responsibilities
- My personal needs/weak areas
- My goals and objectives for 2020

Tuesday, January 7: Read [John 15:1-17](#)

This week, we will review our 2020 commitments -- the first of which is to “*Live the Life*”. God has called us to abide in him, to relate to him daily and to represent him and his purposes to those around us. Now is a good time to commit to a devotional plan for 2020. Will you use our daily spiritual disciplines guide, or maybe some other Bible study and prayer plan? Will you journal your thoughts and prayers, and maybe memorize scripture? And, how can you take what you learn and apply it to your life? Finally, how will you live out your faith at home and out in the community? Paul says to live a life worthy of your calling ([Ephesians 4:1](#)). If we are to become a church where “every member is a minister”, we have to be a church where every member is committed to living out their faith on a daily basis. Live the life!

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday January 8: Read [Colossians 3:1-25](#)

Our second commitment for 2020 is to “*Be the Church*”. This is a corporate decision to join together as the body of Christ for worship, discipleship and fellowship. Our culture is increasingly pulling people apart -- God is continually working to bring people together. Marriage, family and the church are his social institutions through which he seeks to accomplish his purposes in the world. We are part of what he is doing to reconcile humanity back to God. We are his church. Every Wednesday, I ask our congregation to pray for our church, to pray through our basic mission and ministries and then to watch to see how each of us can be part of the answer to our prayers.

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, including a pianist. Pray for the development of a youth praise team.
3. **Fellowship**: Ask God to 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 Assignments and the upcoming Kingdom Projects.
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, January 9: Read [Titus 2:1-3:11](#)

Part of being the church involves our weekly worship as a congregation. Another aspect of our congregational life happens in smaller groups as our members divide up to meet in homes on different days of the week. Small group connections afford us deeper relationships for discipleship, spiritual nurture and accountability. These are more easily facilitated in smaller groups of 8 - 12 people versus the larger Sunday service. Are you counted to a small group of believers? As Jesus demonstrated with his disciples, good things happen in small groups where people intentionally gather to pray together, study scripture and relate our mutual faith to our lives.

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.
- Pray for the **community parachurch ministries** serving our county, including Beginnings Care for Life Center, Branch County Right to Life, Celebrate Recovery, Coach Eby Youth and Family Center, Damascus Road Ministry, Family Hope Outreach, Forgotten Man Ministries, Foster Closet of Branch County, God’s Choice Church, Jacob’s Well Ministry, Presbyterian Free Health Clinic, Shelterhouse, Tommy’s House.
- **America** -- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.