

Friday, January 11: Read [1 John 5](#)

Faith is the victory that overcomes the world. Through faith, we affirm Jesus as God's Son. Through faith, we follow his command to love one another. Through faith, we receive assurance that we have eternal life and belong to God. Through faith, we also pray, trusting God for answers and help. Finally, through faith, we are shielded from sin, the influence of the world and the devil (the evil one).

John's concluding exhortation is to stay away from idols. An idol is anything that supplants God in our lives.

Notes:

Pray for Our Missionaries

Juan & Adriana Palacios (Angola, Africa), **David & Miriam Trott** (Cochabamba, Bolivia), **Mario Bloise** (Argentina), **Dan & DeAnn Gerard** (San Antonio, TX), **Robert and Kailey Newkirk** (South Sudan), **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)

Thru the New!

(Reading through the New Testament)

- *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 7 Read [1 John 1](#)

John writes affectionately to the church, calling us his "dear children". He writes to invite us to draw close to the Father in fellowship, to beware of the dangers of "the world" and false teachers, and to work hard at obeying Christ by loving one another.

Chapter one weighs in strong on living daily in communion with God by walking in the light and turning away from darkness (temptation and sin). Verse 9 stands out as a promise worth claiming whenever we fall into temptation and sin.

Notes:

Pray for: ---My relationship with God

---My life roles

---My personal needs/weak areas

---My goals and objectives.

Tuesday, January 8: Read [1 John 2](#)

Chapter two assures us that Jesus acts as our advocate (lawyer) in heaven before the Father. John calls us to obey Christ as evidence of our conversion and exemplifies love as the greatest Christian virtue and the greatest commandment of Jesus.

Next, he clarifies what our enemy “the world” looks like and calls us away from worldliness to obedience to God’s will. He also gives more information about the anti-Christ, already at work around us. His advice is simply remain in Christ.

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday January 9: Read [1 John 3](#)

Chapter three zeros in on the theme of love: The love of God for us, our love for God and our love for one another. As always, Jesus is the model of perfect love, laying down his life for the world. Likewise, we are to lay down our lives in lesser ways, material needs being one way we can share love with others.

John finishes the chapter by clarifying what God’s will for us is -- to believe in the name of the Son and to love one another as Christ commanded us.

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.
2. **Worship**: Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. 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. Pray for our small group ministry.
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 during this Christmas season and beyond.
6. **Future Faith Goals**: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for God’s clear leading in our upcoming 2020 plan.

Thursday, January 10: Read [1 John 4](#)

John calls us to test the spirits and be wary of false teachers and the spirit of the anti Christ. The deity of Christ is central to whether God is behind someone’s ministry or not. Love is central to the life of the Christian. God is love. Our love for God will be reflected in our relationships with others. God, alive in us, will love others through us. This love will signal to others that God is really present in our lives.

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.