Friday, October 18: Read Ephesians 6

Chapter six finishes out the Christian responsibilities of children, parents, slaves and masters (employers and employees). Then Paul turns to the final admonition -- to stand firm in the faith against demonic opposition. This section deserves much study and introspection as we determine how Satan seeks to defeat us as believers and what our biblical posture (response) ought to be. Notice that the armor of God can be deployed through prayer, something we ought to do routinely. Paul ends his letter with salutations and a benediction of grace and peace.

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)

13^{October} 2019



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 advise 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, October 14 Read *Ephesians 1*

Chapter one of Ephesians majors on our heritage in Christ. Read carefully the list of spiritual blessings that God has bestowed on us through Jesus. Why not acknowledge each in your own life and thank him for them.

Take time to decipher Paul's prayer in the second half of this chapter. Pray back to God his words in verses 17-19, making it your own prayer. You might consider memorizing these verses as a guide for praying in the future.

Monday: Pray for: —My relationship with God

—My life roles

—My personal needs/weak areas

—My goals and objectives for the fall season

Tuesday, October 15: Read Ephesians 2

Note the contrast in this chapter between being spiritually dead and spiritually alive. Look at all that God has done through Christ on your behalf! You are positionally "seated with Christ in the heavenly realms"! Ponder just what that should mean for your daily earthly life. Verse 10 says God is preparing good works for you to do. Can you discern what they may be? The second half of the chapter emphasizes our unity with all believers, thanks to what God has accomplished in Christ.

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday October 16: Read *Ephesians 3*

Chapter three opens with Paul's testimony of his service to the saints to present the unsearchable riches of Christ to us (the Gentiles). Again, pay close attention to his prayer in verses 14-19. Why not pray through his words, asking God to likewise empower you to experience his love and fullness. The doxology in verse 20-21 is a fitting end to the chapter.

Wednesday: Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

- 1. <u>Leadership</u>: 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 (<u>Matthew 9:38</u>)
- 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. <u>Fellowship</u>: 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.
- 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.
- 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. <u>Future Faith Goals</u>: 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, October 17: Read *Ephesians 4-5*

The first three chapters of Ephesians proclaim the many things that God has done for us as he's seated in the heavenly places in Christ. Chapters 4 and 5 now call us to live out our new identity in Christ. The word "live" (walk) is used some 8 times, emphasizing our capacity and responsibility to live as true Christians in a non-Christian society. Take time to examine Paul's admonitions to you personally in these chapters. God wants to clarify his will for you in some basic and practical ways. Don't miss it!

Thursday: Pray for "My World"

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

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