Friday, November 8: Read Ephesians 2

Once more, finish the week by reading all of chapter two. We are a third through the book of Ephesians. See if you can get a basic sense of what Paul covers in chapters 1 and 2. In chapter 2, Paul presents God' method of salvation in the first half, and the inclusion of the Gentiles as God's people in the second. For me, the stand out verses for the chapter are 8, 9 and 10. What about you? Next would have to be verse 6, where God elevates us up with his son, Jesus. Be diligent in your study. God will speak to you personally through his word if you are open to listen.

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)

03November-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, November 4 Read *Ephesians 2:11-13*

The first half of Ephesians 2 deals with God's method of salvation -- bringing forgiveness of sins and newness of life as a gift to all who will trust him. Now he addresses the Gentile Christians who were formerly excluded from the family of God, but are now brought near through Christ's death.

Read <u>Isaiah 55</u> and note the invitation given for all to freely come and find salvation.

Monday: Pray for yourself:

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

Tuesday, November 5: Read *Ephesians 2:14-18*

Notice the references to peace in this passage. God has set up a way through Christ in which all people can live in harmony. In Paul's case, he refers to Jews and the Gentiles, separated by the Old Testament regulations for being right with God. Jesus' life, death and resurrection change all that! Are you in harmony with other Christians? Ask God to show you any needed steps to take if necessary. Note *Ephesians 3:3-6, Philippians 2:1-4, Colossians 3:11-17*.

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday November 6: Read *Ephesians 2:15*

Let's take a little time and single out verse 15 and work on its meaning. Is the Old Testament law currently relevant and binding to us as Chrisitians? How did Jesus' body "abolish the law" (like Lincoln "abolished" slavery). Are the Ten Commandments binding for us today? Read the following passages and take note of what they teach in regards to the power of the Old Testament rules and regulations over new Testament (New Covenant) believers.: Romans 3:20-31; 6:15-18; 7:1-6; 8:1-4; 9:30-32; 10:4; Galatians 2:15-16; 3:6-14, 26-29. We now serve God in the new way of the Spirit and not the old way of the written code! Therefore, invite the Holy Spirit to fill your life and follow his lead and prompting today (Ephesians 5:18-20)

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 (*Matthew 9:38*)
- 2. <u>Worship</u>: 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. <u>Fellowship</u>: Asl 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. <u>Discipleship</u>: 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, November 7: Read *Ephesians 2:19-22*

Unity of God's people is a theme that dates back to the Old Testament. Note *Psalm 117 and 133*. Jesus' high priestly prayer expresses the same sentiment in *John 17:20-23*. See also *Ephesians 4:3-6* where the repeated word is simply "one". Like a building, Paul says that God has joined us together to be a place where he freely dwells in his Spirit. This can only occur where there is real Christian unity.

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.