

**Friday**, December 20: Read [Romans 12:1-13](#)

In this passage Paul emphasizes both unity and diversity. Each of us is to use our gifts according to “the measure of faith God has given us”. Faith without works is dead ([James 2:17](#)). As God’s workmen, created to do good works, which actions steps might you need to take just now to move forward in faith and practice using your spiritual gift in service of God and others. Recall our earlier studies on both the service areas within the local congregation and the need areas (healing, feeding, helping, deliverance and evangelism) outside the church in our community. Don’t allow the outreach thieves (apathy, inertia or unbelief) to steal your joy in the Lord. Determine now to develop and employ your spiritual gift in honor of the one who loved you and died to set you free. Invite the Holy Spirit to work in and through your life and watch for ways to serve as God’s workmanship. There’s true freedom and fulfillment in using your gifts for the kingdom of God.

**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  
December 15  
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**, December 16 Read [1 Corinthians 12:1-7](#)

As God’s workmanship, created for good works, we need to have a sense of what kinds of works God is calling us to do. This week, we will consider spiritual gifts and the role they play in serving the Lord.

In 1 Corinthians 12, the Apostle Paul warns the church against ignoring God’s giftings for service. Note here there is one God but many gifts, and they are given for the common good. If we fail to use our gifts, others will be deprived! Note also [Matthew 25:14-18](#), [Hebrews 2:1-4](#). Are you aware of how God has gifted you for service? Are you exercising your gift for others’ sake?

**Monday: Pray for yourself:**

---My relationship with God

—My life roles and responsibilities

—My personal needs/weak areas

—My goals and objectives for the end of 2019

**Tuesday**, December 17: Read [1 Corinthians 12:7-31](#)

Note here Paul's emphasis on the body of Christ and the sacrificial nature of spiritual gifts -- they are given to the individual to serve the greater good of the group (the church body). This is the point of [1 Corinthians 13:1-3 and 1 Corinthians 14:1-5](#), to do all for the edification of the church! Other Christians may need you to use your gift in order for them to grow in their faith! And you will grow thanks to others using their gifts to edify you.

**Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.**

**Wednesday** December 18: Read [1 Peter 4:10-11](#)

Look at the two categories Peter gives for spiritual gifts -- serving and speaking. Take the gifts listed in [Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 and Ephesians 4:11](#) and try to write them under one of these two categories -- which gift have you been given? Who is your gift intended to help? Which gifts have others used to most encourage your own spiritual growth?

**Speaking**

**Serving**

**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**, December 19: Read [Ephesians 4:6-16](#)

This section begins and ends with the unity of the body. God wants to build up the church into maturity in Christ so that he can use it to build his kingdom in the world. Christ is the head, we are the members. Notice the five leadership gifts necessary to birth the church (apostles, prophets and evangelists) and to build the church up (pastors and teachers). See also [Matthew 16:13-20 and Hebrews 13:7-17](#).

**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 of Branch County, 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.