Friday, March 8: Read Psalms 29-30, Proverbs 8

(Read *Romans 12* to preview Sunday's sermon)

Psalm 29 is another Royal Psalm, espousing the greatness and majesty of God. Of special note is David's attention to the power of God's voice as his tool of justice and retribution. God speaks the word and things occur!

Psalm 30 is ascribed to David as a song to be sung at the dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem. It is a Psalm of praise for God's goodness and mercy shown to David and to Israel. Could you write a similar tribute to God's goodness to you?

Proverbs 8 highlights the superiority of wisdom as a virtue. In this chapter, wisdom is personified as someone calling out to people to come in, to learn, and to find true life and satisfaction. Verse 35 is a good summary verse for this chapter.

#### **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 church plant)



Reading through Psalms and Proverbs

### 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, March 4 Read Psalms 21-22, Proverbs 4

We start the week off with what's considered a Royal Psalm. David reviews God's goodness to him, as King of Israel, acknowledging God's sovereignty over his life and over the kingdom. Psalm 22 shines as an outstanding example of prophecy. For this reason, David was considered a prophet of Israel, because he wrote about the coming Messiah. This Psalm specifically speaks to Jesus' suffering and death by crucifixion. It's notable that crucifixion had not yet been invented as a means of execution when David wrote Psalm 22.

Proverbs 4 (by the date) lays out the case for a Father instructing his sons in wise and prudent living. Note the warnings here against falling prey to the wicked. Verse 23 is a standout verse for the chapter.

#### Notes:

**Pray for:** --- My relationship with God

- --- My life roles
- --- My personal needs/weak areas
- ---My goals and objectives.

### Tuesday, March 5: Read <u>Psalms 23-24, Proverbs 5</u>

Psalms 23, the celebrated Shepherd's Psalm, ensures us of God's tender concern and care for his people. Trust him daily as a sheep depends on its shepherd, and you will never be in want.

Psalm 24 is a powerful declaration of the Kingship of God and his reign of glory over all. We are invited to approach him as long as our hands are "clean" and our hearts are "pure". He deserves all our reverence, respect and devotion!

Proverbs 5 is a fatherly warning against the perils of adultery. Solomon saw its devastation firsthand with his father, David, and his mistress (Solomon's mother), Bathsheba. For good reason, he warns his sons to beware.

Tuesday: pray for family and friends by name.

# Wednesday March 6: Read <u>Psalms 25-26, Proverbs 6</u>

Both Psalms today find David appealing to God's character as reason for his hope, final safety and deliverance. David also reminds God of his own integrity -- holding God to his word to protect and preserve "the upright".

Proverbs 6 continues with parental instruction warning sons against perjury, sloth, corrupt actions and lust. Much of the chapter appeals to common sense and the principle of cause and effect (sowing and reaping).

### 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. 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.
- 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.
- 5. <u>Outreach</u>: 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 upcoming Kingdom Initiative.
- 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, March 7: Read <u>Psalms 27-28, Proverbs 7</u>

Psalm 27 is a declaration of faith. When God is at your side, fear fades. Verses 13-14 summarize David's confidence in God and his resolve to wait and trust. Psalm 28 can be divided in two parts. Verses 1-5 are a call for help and verses 6-9 are God's answer and deliverance.

Proverbs 7 continues Solomon's instruction in wise living, warning his sons specifically of the "wayward wife" and her tactics. Verses 24-27 recap his teaching with the end result of devastation and death for any who disregard it.

#### 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.