

Friday, June 26: Read [Matthew 10](#)

We have read and given a lot of thought to parenting. Today you will notice that Jesus put forth a wild statement: “Anyone who loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.” It doesn’t get more crazy than this. Try to draw perspective as to what Jesus was telling His disciples. Was he throwing down a challenge or preparing them for the fight? What does this mean to us today? Are you willing to leave Christ you know to make peace with a grandchild, child, or even a spouse?

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), **Brendan and Ashley Camp** (Columbia)

Week of
June 21
2020



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, June 22: Read [Proverbs 23](#)

This week we want to ask and answer the question, “What does God say about Fatherhood.” The proverb deals with discipline and in many ways about Fatherhood. It first talks about personal discipline and then, starting at verse 13-35 it talks about discipline of a child. You soon realize that it takes personal discipline to discipline a child. Too often we fall back on what we know from experience without learning anew from the scriptures and how God disciplines. We will often be tempted to read into scripture from our own experiences and miss out on experiencing God.

Read [Proverbs 13](#) and focus on verses [18 and 24](#). As one recognizes the need for discipline in one's own life, how does effect and guide the disciplining of children. Why is discipline necessary in the life of a father and also in the life of son? Like the age old question: which came first the chicken or the egg? Does God command us to discipline children or does he teach us discipline first

Monday: Pray for yourself:

- My relationship with God
- My life roles and responsibilities
- My personal needs/weak areas
- My goals and objectives for 2020

Tuesday, June 23 Read [Hebrews 12](#)

Well, here we have it. The New Testament account of the importance of discipline. We are children of God, found by Him and baptized in cleansing blood. It was a great price He paid for our atonement and adoption! As His children we can expect to be discipline, not for sin but for our good. Sin is either dealt with at the cross or at His throne of judgment. There are natural consequences that come from behavior, good and bad. Discipline always comes as a moderate response to disobedience to change our course. Again, not punishment as to payment in full, but for correction—to put back in line what has gone askew. God's not going to wait until things are really messed up before he disciplines. Although, we can reject His discipline and wished we hadn't.

Let's take a moment and go back to [Proverbs 3](#), but pay special attention to verses 11-19. The word used in agreement with discipline is "blessed." This word means happiness—Happy Happy Happy! How can that be?

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday June 24: Read [Revelations 3](#), [Proverbs 5](#)

A father warns his children as they grow older and become more independent. He is wise to see the false gold from real gold. If the child has learned to trust his father then there is greater hope he will listen, even if he does not understand. A father always offers a different way, a better result than "it's my way or the highway." "You're wrong stupid." It is hope built on trust, not must.

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.

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, June 25: Read [Ephesians 6:1-9](#)

Paul reiterates to Gentile believers God's command put forth to the Jewish people to "honor your father and mother." Good parents should be but what about poor parents? Is it parental position that we are to honor? In doing so are we honoring God? These are all good questions that deserve looking into. They deserve answers. It is easy to say, "Well, God said it and that settles it." However, is that fair to ourselves and to God? Other verses include: [Matt. 19:19](#), [Mark 7:6-13](#), [Ezekiel 20:18-19](#), [Acts 5:29](#). It is important to note the command is not to parents but to children. Parents are to teach their children to honor. What better way then by being a good example ([Rom. 13:6-10](#)). We do not love our enemies because they deserve it, but so great is God's Spirit within that we are able to love them and even pray for them. You have heard the saying, "beauty is in the eyes of the beholder." Well, God, as beholder of this position, puts great value on it. Parenting is a great privilege with great responsibility.

To honor is to: Cognate: 5091 timáo – properly, assign value (give honor), as it reflects the personal esteem (value, preciousness) attached to it by the beholder.

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?
- Community -- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County, even through the Coronavirus crisis.
- Pray for the area churches and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation, especially as churches reunite after the quarantine.
- 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, Jacob's Well Ministry, Presbyterian Free Health Clinic, Shelterhouse, Tommy's House, the Gideons and the Bronson Food Pantry.
- America: Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America. Pray that God would use the Coronavirus outbreak to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ.