# Friday, February 21: Read Ephesians 6:10-12

Today, let's finish the week by looking at the Devil and his personality. Verse 12 tells us who our enemy is. Notice the four descriptions. Who are the rulers, who are the authorities, who are the powers, who are the spiritual forces of evil? If the devil is one being, why are these plural? Are these human entities under Satan's control or are they demonic powers of various kinds? Ask God to give you insight into the devil's organization. He has a hierarchy of minions, a government of demons (and many people) who work under his authority. Finish the week by re-reading *Ephesians* 6:10-20. We will continue our study on the spiritual battle next week.

#### 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 February 16 2020



#### 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, February 17 Read *Ephesians 6:10-20*

For the next two weeks, we will zero in on the topic of spiritual warfare taken from this passage in Ephesians. What stands out to you as you survey these verses? What is your initial response to the idea of being at war with the demonic? Fear? Doubt? Indifference? What examples of demonic temptation come to mind either in the Bible or in your own experience? Ask God to reinforce your standing in him as we review this important area of Christian living. Check your armor to be sure you are well suited up in Christ today. God has promised us victory. We just need to step out in faith and claim it.

#### 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, February 18: Read *Ephesians 6:10*

Let's start at the beginning. Where is our strength to withstand the enemy found? Whose power and might is it? Read the following passages and reaffirm your faith, not in your own power, but in the sufficiency of God's power to strengthen and preserve you throughout all of life's battles, temptations and challenges.

Joshua 1:1-9, Psalm 31, Proverbs 18:10, Isaiah 12, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Ephesians 1:18-21

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

## Wednesday February 19: Read *Ephesians 6:11-14*

Today, let's center on the idea of standing. Read these four verses. Verse 10 says we have God's power available. Verses 11-14 repeats his objective in empowering us -- to help us stand against the devil's schemes! (repeated 4 times). What does it mean to stand? What happens when someone falls? What are we standing on (our footing) and what are we standing against (our enemy)? Expand on the concept by reading the following verses. Evaluate your own "standing" before God at present, as well as any hinderances that could possibly trip you up and make you fall.

<u>Psalm 24:1-6, 40:1-4, Isaiah 7:9, Romans 14:4, 1 Corinthians 10:12-13; 16:13, Galatians 5:1, 1 Peter 5:8-9, Jude 24-25.</u>

### 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>: 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. <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 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, February 20: Read *Ephesians 6:10-11*

Let's stay with verse 11 in our passage and think about the devil's "schemes". The word for scheme in Greek is strategy. The devil has a game plan. He uses tactics to get at us. What are they? Are you aware of your weaknesses? The devil is, and he will use them against you if you allow him to. Again, look up the following verses. Seek to gain greater insight into Satan's strategy against you and your loved ones.

Genesis 3:1-6, Job 1:6-12, Matthew 4:1-11, John 8:44, 10:10; 2 Corinthians 2:10-11, 4:3-4, 10:4-5, 11:3, 1 Peter 5:6-9, Revelation 12:10-12

#### Thursday: Pray for "My World"

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

- Neighbors People who live around me.
- <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 <u>area churches</u> and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation.
- Pray for the <u>community parachurch ministries</u> 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.
- <u>America</u> -- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.