

**Friday**, February 7: Read [Ephesians 5:1-21](#)

Reread chapter five so far up to verse 21. Ask God to speak specifically to you as you read. Note any promptings of the Spirit within. He will affirm your progress. He will also alert you to any areas that need attention or adjustment. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ, he is the counsellor, the comforter, the helper, the Spirit of truth, your advocate, the one who seals your life, baptizes you into the body of Christ, reveals sin, guides you in truth, sanctifies, fills, gifts and preserves you. And much, much more. In short, the Holy Spirit is the key to living the Christian life. Without him, it is impossible. Work at being more attentive to his presence in your life throughout each day.

**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 2  
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**, February 3 Read [Ephesians 5:15-21](#)

In our passage for the week, we will center in on the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Today, however, let's launch with verse 15 and the theme of wisdom vs. foolishness. According to verses 15-16, what's the difference between a wise and foolish person? Note the contrasts between the two as they are spelled out in the book of the Proverbs of Solomon. Check yourself to be sure you are living a careful, intentional (wise, not foolish), God-honoring life.

[Proverbs 1:7, 3:33-35, 10:5,8,14,19, 11:2, 12:15,20, 13:1,3,10,20, 14:1,8,16,15:2,32-33.](#)

**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 4: Read [Ephesians 5:15-17](#)

Today let's follow suit from our study of wisdom on Monday. Verse 17 says that a foolish person ignores the will of the Lord. What is the will of the Lord and how can I know it (and thus be wise)? Again, let's look at select passages of scripture which give us insight into various aspects of God's will for our lives. Note any action points you might need to take from today's reading in order to be wise and understanding.

[Psalm 25:1-5, Matthew 6:10, 12:50, John 7:1-17, Romans 12:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 5:16-18, 1 John 5:14-15](#)

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

## Wednesday February 5: Read [Ephesians 5:18-21](#)

Verse 18 in this passage follows in the context of God's will from verse 17. God's will is that we be filled with his Spirit. The verb tense is the passive present, continuative which could be restated -- keep on being continually filled by the Spirit. It's not a one and done deal. It's a daily, all the time experience of being under the influence, not of wine but of God's Holy Spirit. Do a quick survey on the Spirit. Note who he is, why he's here and what he does in the following verses. Make friends with God's Spirit. Speak to him. Thank him for being present in you. Invite him to fill -- (empower and control) -- your life.

[Genesis 1:1-2, Psalm 139:7-8, Isaiah 44:3, John 1:33, 14:26, 16:13, Acts 1:8, 2:17, Romans 8:16, 26, 1 Corinthians 6:19, 2 Corinthians 3:17, Galatians 5:22-23, 1 John 4:13](#)

**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 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, February 6: Read [Ephesians 5:19-21](#)

Now today, notice the four verbs that follow the admonition in verse 18 to be filled with the Spirit. The first is "speak". How does the Holy Spirit affect your speech? What comes out of your mouth exposes what's in your heart (Matthew 15:18-19). The second is to "sing". Do you have a song in your heart. Look inside you. The Holy Spirit wells up from within ([John 7:37-39, Proverbs 15:13-15](#)). The third verb is to give thanks. Do you have a general attitude of thankfulness and praise, or do you tend to see the negative side of things and maybe even complain or criticize? Finally, note verse 21 -- to submit. A spirit-filled person easily defers to others. They are not in competition but rather look for ways to compliment those around them. Is that you? Invite the Holy Spirit to manifest himself in these four areas of your life today.

**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?
- **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, 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.