

**Friday**, February 28: Read [Ephesians 6:14](#)

One of the worst things that can happen to a soldier in the heat of battle is to slip and fall down! He is instantly vulnerable and unable to fight or defend himself, until he gets back up. Likewise, God wants us to have stable footing in the spiritual battle. He places us on solid ground with high traction shoes. The gospel is our foundation, and it's fruit is peace -- peace with God, peace within and peace with others.

Read the following verses and by faith stand firm over the completed work of Jesus Christ on your behalf: Experience his peace.

[Matthew 7:24](#)

[Romans 5:1-11](#)

[Ephesians 2:14-22](#)

**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)

**Focus Four:** Be sure you are praying regularly for four people (individuals, couples or families) that you will invite to our upcoming Outreach Sunday with Rod Snow on March 29.

Week of  
February 23  
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 24 Read [Ephesians 6:10-20](#)

Again, let's begin the week by surveying this whole passage on Spiritual Warfare. Last week, we looked at standing strong, the devils' schemes and God's power available to us in the face of temptation and evil. Survey the second half of the text. What questions do you have about spiritual armor? Which seem obvious and which are less familiar in dealing with the devil? How might prayer link the application of our armor to the actual test of faith or temptation? Ask God to sharpen your thinking in regards to spiritual warfare and how we overcome the enemy. His victory is ours if we appropriate 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 25: Read [Colossians 1:13-14; 2:13-15](#)

The best way to overcome an enemy is to study him; to learn just who he is, how he operates and what his weaknesses are. In a sense, we “de-fang the monster”, cast out fear and gain confidence through an accurate understanding of our opposition. Read the following verses. Note what you learn about Satan from each passage.

[Ezekiel 28:11-19](#)

[Isaiah 14:12-17](#)

[Revelation 12:7-12](#)

[Job 1:6-12](#)

[Matthew 4:1-11](#)

[Mark 5:1-20](#)

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

**Wednesday** February 26: Read [Ephesians 6:11-17](#)

Today let's look at the first of six armors God has provided for our defense. We are to stand firm with “the belt of truth” in place. Back then the soldier's belt crisscrossed his shoulders. All other armor would hang on it. What if the belt was loose? We need a firm grasp of God's truth (doctrine). Everything hinges on it. Note how truth both defines us as believers and defends us from evil.

[John 17:17; 8:31-32; 42-44, 2 Corinthians 4:4, 11:3.](#)

Ask God to wrap his truths tight around you in order to ward off the lies of the devil.

**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 27: Read [Ephesians 6:14](#)

Over truth we place the breastplate of righteousness. What does the breastplate protect? And, whose righteousness is it anyway, mine or his? Satan is the accuser of the brethren ([Revelation 12:10-11](#)). What is he accusing you of doing or not doing? How do you combat his attacks? You need to affirm your complete righteousness (being in right standing with God) through Jesus' accomplishments. Take to heart (literally) the following verses: [Zechariah 3:1-9](#), [Romans 3:19-24](#), [Hebrews 10:10-25](#)

**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.