

Friday, March 6: Read [Ephesians 6:10-17](#)

We finish the week with one last review of the full armor of God passage. Review the six pieces and what they protect. Consider also the attacks of the enemy against each part -- my feet in standing firm; my mind covered with the assurance of salvation; my heart guarded by Christ's righteousness; God's truth like a belt holding it all together. Go back to the Psalms written by King David, a warrior all too familiar with the dangers and tolls of battle. Read [Psalms 91](#) and note his total dependence on God for strength and security. Ask God to develop that same reliance in your life.

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
March 1
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, March 2 Read [Ephesians 6:10-20](#)

Once again, let's start the week by reading the whole section on spiritual armor. Since the nature of the battle is spiritual, we need spiritual resources to prevail and overcome. Review the six pieces of armor. Can you name them by memory? What function does each accomplish? How does each ward off one of the primary attacks of the devil? Note the reference to the mind and the spiritual battle in [2 Corinthians 10:3-6](#) and [1 Thessalonians 5:8-9](#).

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, March 3: Read [Ephesians 6:16](#)

For the next couple of days, let's single out the remaining armor and look more closely at each. In verse 16, Paul tells us to take up the shield of faith. The verb tense here is active. The previous armors were already on, they just needed to be used. In this case, we must put our faith in action to ward off the enemies' attacks. That means that we could leave our faith stagnant and not resist the devil. Faith is trusting God and acting accordingly. It's simply obeying God's orders. Note the role of faith in obedience to the following instructions: [Romans 10:8-13](#), [Galatians 5:1,6,13](#); [Ephesians 5:15-21](#); [2 Timothy 2:1-6](#), [1 Peter 5:5-9](#). Satan's arrows are aimed at our minds. What false ideas, fears or temptations is Satan shooting at your brain? Use your faith to actively counter them whenever they arise.

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday March 4: Read [Ephesians 6:17](#)

Verse 17 of Ephesians adds two more armor to our arsenal -- a helmet and a sword. What does a helmet protect? How is the knowledge that we are saved a safeguard against doubts and accusations? In what situations are you tempted to doubt your salvation? Go back and read the following passages to reassure your mind that your life is safe and secure in Jesus Christ, in spite of your performance or behavior. Our salvation is based on the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sake. We can't add or subtract anything to what he has done. We simply acknowledge it and rely on him.

[John 3:16-21](#); [Ephesians 1:11-14](#), [Colossians 2:13-17](#); [Titus 3:3-8](#), [1 John 5:9-15](#).

Do you have your helmet on?

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. Pray for our upcoming Rod Snow outreach on Sunday, March 29.
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, March 5: Read [Ephesians 6:17](#)

The final armor is the sword of the Spirit. This is the one piece given which is specifically defined as the word of God. Go back and read Luke 4:1-13. Notice Jesus didn't argue with Satan, he simply clarified the truth of God in each tempting situation. We must take up the sword and use it. It's the only offensive armor, given to strike back at the devil. In order to use the Bible as a sword, we must know what's in it and where to find the truths we need when the battle is on. This is the challenge for every believer to read God's word, to take it to heart and to speak it forth as a weapon against Satan's lies, accusations and temptations. If you are undergoing temptation of a certain kind in a specific area of your life, do your homework. Find out what God says about your life situation and arm yourself with his truth. If necessary, speak his word out loud to the devil and drive him away from you. ([James 4:7](#), [1 Peter 5:8-9](#))

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.