

Friday, March 20: Read [Ephesians 5:21-6:23](#)

Finish the week and the book of Ephesians by reading Paul's directions for domestic living and for doing battle against spiritual forces. Check yourself by both counts as you read. Highlight personal applications and ask God to continue his steady work of growth and development within you. He's making a big difference!

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 15
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 16: Read [Ephesians 1:1-23](#)

Let's take this week to finish our study of Ephesians and try to consolidate what we've learned from the book.

Read chapter one and highlight any outstanding themes or verses. Pay close attention to God's saving work for humanity in the first 14 verses, and Paul's prayer for us to know God in verses 15-21. You would do well to learn and repeat this prayer for yourself. Verses 22-23 summarize Ephesians' presentation of Jesus Christ as supreme over all.

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 17: Read [Ephesians 2:1-3:12](#)

Today begin with Paul's explanation of salvation in Ephesians two. Look back to a time that you were lost without Christ. Thank God for his mercy to you. Affirm your simple faith in Christ as Savior. Verse 6 is a pivotal verse for the book. We are to see ourselves as God sees us -- already seated with Christ in glory. It's a done deal! Go on to meditate on the kinds of "good works" God has prepared for you in verse 10.

Verse 11 on into chapter 3 expounds on the new reality of God's kingdom make up; the church! Jews and Gentiles joined together, thanks to all that Christ has accomplished. The idea was especially mysterious for the Jews of Paul's time.

Tuesday: Pray for Family and Friends by Name.

Wednesday March 18: Read [Ephesians 3:13-4:16](#)

Begin your reading today with Paul's second prayer for the Ephesians. Again, consider memorizing this prayer and praying it regularly for yourself. God wants you to experience his love!

Chapter four now launches us from the earlier themes of salvation and sanctification to that of service. What is your personal calling? (verse 1) Are you living up to what God has called you to do? Read carefully chapter four up to verse 16. Ask God to clarify for you your role in serving others -- at home, in the church and in the community.

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 19: Read [Ephesians 4:17-5:20](#)

Pick up our reading today halfway through Ephesians chapter four. Paul now exhorts us to live a life different from what we had been living. We are to put off "the old" and put on "the new". Again, allow your reading to serve as a checkpoint for your life. Are you living an obvious Christian life, or are you walking one foot in the world and one foot in the kingdom? No room for compromise here -- it must be a daily surrender to his lordship. Chapter 5 verse 18 is really the key to our victory -- the filling of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to help you to empty yourself of any old trappings of self-directed living. Invite the Holy Spirit to fill and direct your life daily. Watch to see what he does and how he leads. There's much at stake with your simple obedience.

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. Pray that God would use the Coronavirus outbreak to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ.