

Friday, May 6: Read [Romans 9-10](#), Sermon Text: [Matthew 24](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Friday: Pray for Our Missionaries

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Spiritual Disciplines Guide

Chart the Course

New Testament

Week of May 1, 2022

Having read the four gospels and the book of Acts, we now turn to the section of the New Testament known as the Epistles. An epistle, simply stated, is a letter. Most of the New Testament letters are written to churches in various regions of Asia Minor with the intention of further instructing believers there and encouraging them in their faith. Several are written to correct doctrinal issues that have arisen within the congregations or to give instructions for church leadership. Of the twenty two epistles in the New Testament, thirteen are written by the Apostle Paul.

The first of Paul's letters that we will read is Romans. In the book of Romans, Paul writes to the Christians at Rome, a group of people he has yet to meet. Most of Paul's letters are written after he has been to a certain region and started a church there. Romans is sent to a church not founded by Paul. In this letter he lays out the basic Christian doctrine that he teaches to all his churches. For this reason, Romans is an excellent study for anyone who wants to get a general overview of the topics of salvation (chapters 1-5), sanctification (chapters 6-8), Israel's present and future status with God (chapters 9-11) and Christian service (chapters 12-16). This week's reading will weigh in heavy on the doctrine of salvation by faith not works, along with living out your salvation through the power of the Holy Spirit. Take careful note of what you are reading. God has much truth for us to learn and apply in the book of Romans.

Monday, May 2: Read [Romans 1-2](#)

Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Monday: Pray for yourself:

My relationship with God

My life roles and responsibilities

My personal needs/weak areas

My goals and objectives for this spring session.

Tuesday, May 3: Read [Romans 3-4](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, May 4: Read [Romans 5-6](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

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. Take some time to 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 through the Kingdom Assignment "*Dare to Care*".
6. Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for God's clear leading in our future plans 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, May 5: Read [Romans 7-8](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

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?
- Community -- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County, even through time of crisis.
- Pray for the area churches and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation, especially as churches reunite after the pandemic.
- Pray for the community parachurch ministries serving our county, including Beginnings Care for Life Center, Branch County Right to Life, Joppa Recovery/ Celebrate Recovery, Coach Eby Center, Family Promise, Forgotten Man Ministries, Freedom Recovery Center, 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 pandemic, the economy and world events to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ. Pray for God's guidance and protection for our nation in the coming weeks and months.