

Friday, June 24: Review [*Colossians 1-4*](#)

*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 June 19, 2022

This week we turn to the third prison epistle of the Apostle Paul. Colossians was written from a Roman prison around 60 AD. Like his letter to the Romans, Colossians is written to a church that Paul did not establish. According to [*chapter one, verse 7*](#), it has been founded by Epaphras, likely a convert of the Apostle Paul during his three years in Ephesus. Paul writes this letter in response to a false doctrine being promoted in Colosse called Gnosticism. This heresy simply states that Christ is one of many angels that together lead us to God. It demeaned Jesus' full deity and emphasized special knowledge and rituals in order to draw close to God. A careful reading of [*Colossians 1:15-23*](#) leaves no doubt that Jesus is in fact divine, equal to the Father in stature, glory and power. Chapter two expounds on this truth. Chapters 3 and 4 then go on to give practical implications of living out our faith in relationship to others and the world. Paul's statement in [*chapter 2:17*](#) rings true for us today -- reality is found in Christ. Living an authentic, full and realistic life is dependent on knowing, loving and serving the Lord Jesus Christ.

Monday, June 20: Read [*Colossians 1*](#)

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 summer season.

Tuesday, June 21: Read [*Colossians 2*](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, June 22: Read [*Colossians 3*](#)

*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, June 23: Read [*Colossians 4*](#)

*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.