

Friday, July 29: Read [James 5](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Friday: Pray for Our Missionaries

David & Miriam Trott (Tucuman, Argentina), **Dan and DeAnn Gerard** (San Antonio, TX), **Craig and Shelly Schafer** (Asia-Pacific Region), **Joe and Sue Saunders-Robb** (Bosnia), **Daniel Jezowski** (Wycliffe), **Brad and Christa Babjack** (University of West Virginia), **Alvaro and Raquel Garriga** (Central Asia), **Pastor Roberto** (Las Palmas Church, Tijuana)



Spiritual Disciplines Guide

Chart the Course

New Testament

Week of July 24, 2022

We will finish the book of Hebrews this week and pick up the James letter to the church of his day. James has been called the proverbs of the New Testament. It was written by Jesus' half brother James, one of the leaders of the church of Jerusalem. His letter is addressed primarily to Jewish believers scattered throughout the Roman Empire. He makes frequent references to the law. Much of James' epistle relates to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and the need for believers to live moral, upright lives. Chapter two seems to contradict Paul's teaching of Justification by grace in [Romans 3-4](#), but with a closer examination, one can discern that it is not contradictory but rather complimentary. Faith is the basis of our salvation in Christ, but saving faith always demonstrates itself by works or deeds as it is sometimes translated. The letter of James, like Proverbs, is primarily a collection of short maxims or sayings. It covers a broad spectrum of topics, most dealing with obedience to God, shunning evil, brotherly love, the use of the tongue, wise living, worldliness, hoarding wealth, the second coming and praying for healing. Perhaps a key verse for the book of James is chapter 2:17...*faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

Monday, July 25: Read [Hebrews 11](#)

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, July 26: Read [*Hebrews 12-13*](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, July 27: Read [*James 1-2*](#)

*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, July 28: Read [*James 3-4*](#)

*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.