Friday, March 8: Read Acts 8
Chapter highlights:
*A key passage for me:
*One point of application from today's reading:

Friday: Pray for Our Missionaries

David & Miriam Trott (Spain), Dan and DeAnn Gerard (San Antonio, TX), Craig and Shelly Schafer (Asia-Pacific Region), Joe and Sue Saunders-Robb (Reliant), Daniel Jezowski (Papau, New Guinea), Brad and Christa Babjack (Michigan State University), Alvaro and Raquel Garriga (Central Asia), Spectrum Ministries (Tijuana, Mexico), Gloria Stutzman (Ensenada, Mexico)



Spiritual Disciplines Guide
Week of March 3, 2024

From our recent series on faith we are now going to change our focus to a new sermon topic, "The Life and Letters of the Apostle Paul". Thirteen of the 27 books of the New Testament were written by the Apostle Paul. The books that he wrote are actually letters, mostly written to various churches in Asia Minor and Europe, many of which he was responsible for starting. Four of his letters are also addressed to church leaders. We will start our study in the book of Acts where much of Paul's missionary activity is documented by Luke, the author of Acts. Rather than pick up with Paul's ministry in Acts 13, let's start at the beginning and get a broader view of how the Holy Spirit is working from the time Jesus ascends to heaven until Paul appears on the scene in Acts chapter 9. Take note of the individuals and activities highlighted in each of our chapters in this week's readings. We today have much to learn from the original church at Jerusalem and their outreach into the neighboring countries.

Monday, March 4: Read Acts 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 the winter season.

Tuesday, March 5: Read Acts 3 - 4

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, : March 6: Read Acts 5 - 6:7

Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Wednesday: Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church

- 1. <u>Leadership:</u> 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*)
- 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. <u>Fellowship:</u> 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. <u>Discipleship:</u> 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. <u>Outreach:</u> 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.
- 6. <u>Future Faith Goals:</u> 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, March 7: Read Acts 6:8-59

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.
- <u>People at Work</u> 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?
- <u>Community</u> -- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County, even through time of crisis.
- <u>Pray for the area churches</u> and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation, especially as churches unite through the Branch County Canopy of Prayer.
- 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.
- <u>America:</u> Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival
 in America. Pray that God would use 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.