

Friday, December 22: Read [Matthew 28](#)

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** (Reliant), **Daniel Jezowski** (Papau, New Guinea), **Brad and Christa Babjack** (Michigan State University and Lansing Community College), **Alvaro and Raquel Garriga** (Central Asia), **Pastor Roberto** (Las Palmas Church, Tijuana)



## Spiritual Disciplines Guide

Week of December 17, 2023

Jesus said, “*Whoever hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house upon the rock*” ([Matthew 7:24](#)). We have taken the past two months to review Jesus’ words as they are recorded in the book of Matthew. We have especially been paying attention to precepts and principles that we can directly apply to our own lives. Life storms are coming! Jesus said that his truth can anchor us through the storms. He is our sure foundation!

This week we will simply finish the book of Matthew. Chapters 24-25 will cover the Olivet Discourse of Christ where he cues his disciples on things related to the fall of Jerusalem and his second coming. Chapters 26-27 cover the passion of Christ and chapter 28 his resurrection. Again, look for specific insights as you read into your own life circumstances. We would be wise to put into practice the truths that Jesus reveals.

Monday, December 18 Read [Matthew 24](#)

\*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 season.

**Tuesday**, December 19: Read [Matthew 25](#)

\*Chapter highlights:

\*A key passage for me:

\*One point of application from today's reading:

***Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.***

**Wednesday**, : December 20: Read [Matthew 26](#)

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**, December 21: Read [Matthew 27](#)

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.