## Friday, Aug. 25: Read Psalms 119, Luke 10

Psalm 119 (in contrast to 117) is the longest Psalm in scripture. The theme throughout its 176 verses is the supremacy of the word of God. Written as Hebrew poetry, each section begins with the succeeding letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Note above all, just what God's truth signifies for us as believers. Verse 105 stands out as most familiar in the Psalm

Luke 10 records the second missions trip of the disciples, along with 60 others. There's excellent insight on missionary strategy here for all who take time to study the passage.

*Notes:* 

#### **Pray for Our Missionaries**

Juan & Adriana Palacios (Angola, Africa), David & Miriam Trott (Cochabamba, Bolivia), Mario Bloise (Argentina), Nate & MaryBeth Brace (Kentucky), Dan & DeAnn Gerard (San Antonio, TX), Robert Newkirk (Jesus Film), Craig & Shelly Shafer (Sentani, Indonesia), Mike & Fran VanBruggen (S. Africa), Sue Sanders (Detroit, MI), Matt Kooi (Tijuana), Daniel Jezonski (Wycliffe), Danielle Tucker (France), Andrew & Sara Williams (New Tribes).

#### **Specific Concerns:**

#### Pray this weekend:

- •Review the week (Thank God for answered prayer)
- •Note any ongoing concerns to pray for next week.
- •Praise God that He is working in your life. You are growing in your faith.



- Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your reading each day.
- Read the chapters and underline any meaningful verses and take note of specific advise or wisdom gleaned from your reading.
- Note any unclear passages or teaching and seek insight, answers or help.
- Think about what you're reading. Ask:
  - 1. How does this apply to me?
  - 2. Are there any temptations to avoid, sins to confess, commands to obey or promises to claim?
  - 3. What insight do I gain on God, myself, others, or life?
- Ask God to show you any specific action you need to take as you read.

# Weekly Readings

# Monday, Aug. 21: Read <u>Psalm 110-111, Luke 6</u>

Psalm 110 is a messianic psalm. Jesus later appeals to its truths as the rightful ruling King. It looks forward to the ultimate victory of Messiah and his future rule over all.

Luke 6 records part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The primary point of the message is how kingdom people are to treat one another. The quality of our relationships shows the quality of our allegiance with Christ.

### Pray for:

- 1. My relationship with God.
- 2. My life roles
- 3. My personal needs/weak areas
- 4. Goals and objectives

# Tuesday, Aug. 22: Read <u>Psalms 111-113</u>, <u>Luke 7</u>

Psalms 111-113 are part of the "Hallelujah Psalms". The first line of each is translated from the Hebrew word "Hallelujah", which means "praise the Lord". Each serves as a guide for how we can better acknowledge God in personal worship. Why not read through the Psalms phrase by phrase and pray back to God the truth recorded in each line.

Luke 7 records more insight into who John the Baptist was and the significant role he played in Israel. Who would the least in the kingdom of God be? Are we now greater than John because of our position in Christ?

Notes:

#### Pray for family and friends by name.

# Wednesday Aug. 23: Read <u>Psalms 114-115, Luke 8</u>

Psalm 115 extols Israel to reject idols and serve the Lord God alone. What arguments can you make to serve God today rather than serving the gods of our culture? Like the psalmist, we should be quick to extol the virtues of God over the false gods of pleasure and profit promoted by our society.

Luke records several of Jesus' parables, including this, possibly his most famous parable, the sower and the seed. Note the primary emphasis on God's word as basic to all spiritual growth. We have to be in the word daily so that his word can germinate in us and grow fruit -- character and influence through us.

Notes:

# Pray for Bethel Gilead Community Church (Consider fasting one, two, or all meals this day.)

- a. Pastors: 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.
- b. Worship: Ask God to strengthen our devotion to Him, in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.
- c. Fellowship: Ask God to deepen our love and commitment to one another as a family of believers.
- d. Discipleship: ask God to develop the faith, dedication, and leadership of our people. Pray for the children and youth ministries here at BGCC.
- e. Outreach: Pray that God will use Bethel Gilead to make a positive impact on our community so that many would come to Christ.
- f. Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for God's clear leading in 2017 and beyond.

# Thursday, Aug. 24: Read <u>Psalms 116-118, Luke 9.</u>

Psalm 116 recounts a near death experience and the impact it had on the psalmist's faith. Crisis often can be a wake up call that turns our attention from ourselves to God. In desperation, we look up to God and seek his help. Have you had an experience like that? If so, you could write of song of deliverance much like this Psalm. Note Psalm 117 is the shortest psalm in the Bible. It extols all nations to worship God for his love and faithfulness. Like Psalm 116, Psalm 118 recounts God's mercy and calls for true gratitude in response to all God has done.

Luke records the first of two mission trips the disciples were part of. It also records the transfiguration of Christ and several admonitions to true discipleship. Being a disciple of Christ should not be taken lightly. The original twelve would give their lives for the privilege to walk with Jesus. Would we be willing to do the same today? Note the paradox of saving and losing your life in verse 24. "Real life" is only found in Jesus, the Lord of Life!

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### Pray for "My World"

- Neighbors People who live around me.
- People at Work Others God brings into my life. Begin to take note of specific needs around you and ask God what he wants you to do to help.
- Ask God to bring revival and a spiritual awakening to Branch County. Pray for the area churches and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation.
- Continue to pray for the nation, our national leaders and a revival in America.