

Thursday: Pray for “My World”

- People of Texas and Florida
- 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.

Friday, September 15: Read [Genesis 5-6, 1 John 5](#)

[In five short chapters we come from creation to destruction. Genesis 6 records the wickedness in the world. In God’s mercy we read how God shortens man’s life. Mankind continued to do evil. Mankind continued to live according to the passions of the flesh. Men lived as animals and not in the image of God. Therefore, God puts in place His plan to save](#) His creation: the ark. It is both symbolic and an actual account that speaks to the heart and power of God.

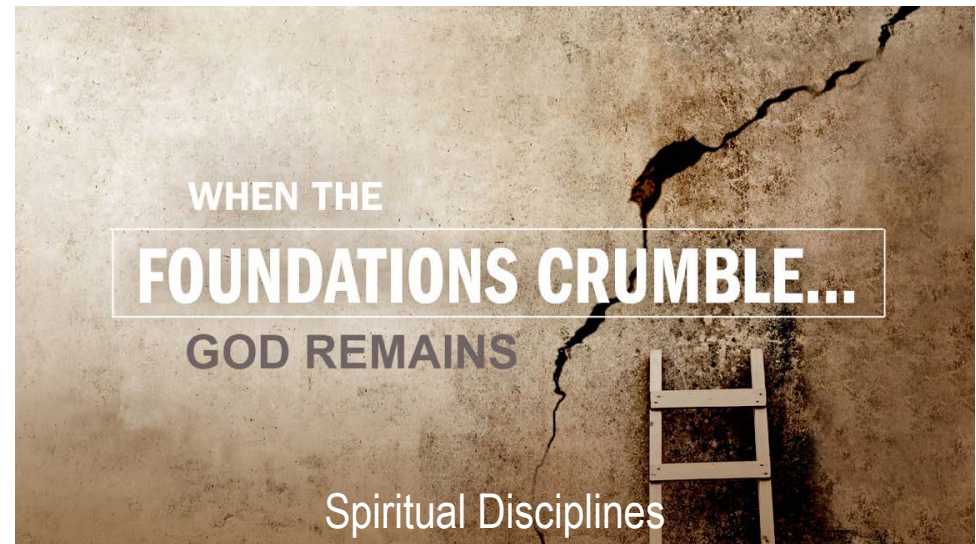
1 John 5 describes for us how we are to overcome the world. Just as Genesis 6 describes how God protected his creation by the ark, so Jesus is our ark. He promises to protect us from the evil one (v.18). He will bring us to our eternal home.

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:



- *Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your reading each day.*
- *Read the chapters and underline any meaningful verses and take note of specific advice 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, Sept. 11: Read [Genesis 1, 1 John 1](#)

God blends the writings of Genesis in a beautiful narrative that is scientifically accurate. As we begin this series, enjoy the beauty of God’s record of creation. It is as magnificent and awe inspiring as the Grand Canyon and as moving as a Spring day.

John opens his letter with an invitation, much like a new-birth announcement. The reader is invited to join in the eye witness account of God’s new creation, a new covenant, a greater understanding of God’s purpose in creation. Note the reference to light and darkness and how this is also mentioned in Genesis.

Notes:

Monday’s Prayer- next page.

Monday: Pray for

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

Tuesday, Sept. 12: Read [*Genesis 2, 1 John 2*](#)

Well, it is finished as it comes to the creation of heaven and earth (Gen. 2). Later we will hear these same word of Jesus as He died on the cross. In Genesis 2, we see that God blesses the Seventh day and made it holy, separate from the other six days of creation. We learn in the New Testament that the Sabbath is not only a day but more importantly the person of Jesus Christ. Just as we are physically blessed with rest so we are spiritually blessed as we rest in Christ's finished work (Heb.4).

1 John 2 records the dawning of a new creation (v. 8), the Spiritual blessing that extends to the whole world. John explains what it means to live in the light. Just as God separated the light from the darkness in Genesis, so there is a separation between living in the light of God's Word and the darkness of the world.

Notes:

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday Sept. 13: Read [*Genesis 3, 1 John 3*](#)

Genesis 3 records that the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God made. The devil was able to cast doubt in the minds of both Adam and Eve by inaccurately stating God's command. He exaggerated the command and Eve mirrored her response by exaggerating her response. We always get into trouble when we don't take God at His Word. He says what He means.

1 John 3 records for us the redemption from Genesis 3. Since we are now in Christ, we are no longer to remain in sin, and we are to love one another. John explains what that love looks like (vs17-18).

Wednesday's 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. Pray for the transition to the Erwins' sabbatical this fall.
- 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, Sept. 14: Read [*Genesis 4, 1 John 4*](#)

Genesis 4 records a too often account of family life; sibling rivalry. It also records what will later be seen as the spiritual rivalry between the Jewish leaders and Christ. Just as Cain rose up and killed his brother Abel, so the Jewish leaders rise up to kill Jesus. The intent of one was the intent of the other. Genesis records a narrative that is both poetic and historically accurate.

1 John 4 tells us not only to test the spirits (doctrines and teachings that come our way) but also **HOW** we are to test the spirits. Does the doctrine come from men and the world? This doctrine rests in religious appearance. Or, does the teaching call us to action in love. Jesus showed himself over and over to care for people in a real sense, at many times He appeared not to be religious enough (Mark 3:1-6).

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