

Thursday 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.
- **Pray for the nation**, our national leaders and a revival in America.

Friday, October 6: Read [Genesis 22](#), [Acts 10](#)

[Genesis 22](#) records Abraham taking Isaac, his only son and gift from God to the mountain to sacrifice. He said to his servants, “*Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.*” The test was not a temptation but to show Abraham that He would provide a sacrifice. As Abraham would experience the anguish of sacrificing his son whom he loved, so God would. As Isaac also trusted in the love of his father, so Jesus trusted in the love of the Heavenly Father. Abraham and Isaac worshiped God as they better understood God’s love and plan for humanity. We also can trust in God’s sacrifice and His unfailing love for us. We can rest assured that God never tempts us to do evil but tests us to show himself faithful. Read [James 1:12-18](#). Give thought to the difference of testing and tempting. Testing is revealing-revelation of God’s love and faithfulness.

In [Acts 10](#), Peter is given what may appear to him as a temptation to do evil, to eat unclean animal. Peter is rebuked: “*Do not call anything impure that God has made clean*” (v. 15). Peter sees the vision two more times and in verses 17 and 19 we read Peter contemplates the meaning. God calls us to contemplate Old Testament laws to better understand His nature. When we trust Him, He reveals how truly great is His grace. God’s salvation extends to all. His grace knows no limit.

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).



- *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, October 2: Read [Genesis 18](#), [Acts 6](#)

[Genesis 18](#) records a conversation that God has with Abraham. Much like the cool of the evening when God walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, He in the late afternoon, under the great trees of Mamre talks about His plans for both Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham intercedes for Lot and his family. The text states that as two angels proceeded to the cities, the Lord stayed with Abraham. God communes with man. God is pleased when we intercede for others. Read [James 5:15-17](#).

[Acts 6](#): Because the Apostles dealt early on with a problem that had potential to split the church the church grew. It might have seemed incidental to preaching and teaching but the Apostles recognized that it needed attention. The people chose seven men who were known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. Hospitality and being hospitable was just as important for Abraham in his times as it is for the church today. (Read [Hebrews 13:1-3](#)) **Notes and Prayer Request Next Page:**

Notes

Monday Pray for:

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

Tuesday, October 3: Read [Genesis 19, Acts 7](#)

[Genesis 19](#) tells us “God remembered” Abraham just as he remembered Noah and the animals in the ark. God spared Lot and his family but did not spare the city. There were not even 10 righteous in all the city. In verse 14, Lot pleaded with his future son-in-laws but they thought he was joking that God was going to destroy the city. Too often, as true with Adam and Eve, they did not understand God’s love because they did not understand the righteousness and justice of God.

[Acts 7](#): Stephen recounts the book of Genesis dealing with Abraham and Moses. When the light of understanding of the Old Testament teachings fell on them with New Testament conviction, they chose to rise and kill the messenger instead of repenting. The Jewish leaders saw the foundations of their way of life crumbling as the church continued to grow and gain influence over the people. God was replacing the old covenant with the new covenant of Grace and Truth. (Read [John 1:15-18](#)) Unlike John the Baptist, the Jewish leaders were unwilling to decrease. They thought too much of themselves. *Are you willing to decrease that He might increase?*

Notes:

Pray for family and friends by name.

Wednesday October 4: Read [Genesis 20, Acts 8](#)

[Genesis 20](#): What is Truth? Abraham lied even though he was factual. Truth is more than facts, it is the complete story. Abraham was wrong in many ways. Believing Abimelek did not fear God was just one way. Sometimes we can think others do not fear God when they actually have many fears. God was both merciful to both Abraham and Abimelek.

[Acts 8](#) records that with great sorrow also comes great joy. They grieved greatly at Stephen’s death (chapter 7) and then the great persecution that followed. As they went, God’s Spirit of grace and truth accompanied the gospel message that went with them. Read [2 Timothy 1:6-8](#).

Notes:

**Wednesday: 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, October 5: Read [Genesis 21, Acts 9](#)

[Genesis 21](#): What a blessing that in her old age God made Sarah to laugh, brought her joy and happiness in her old age. Although sending Hagar and Ishmael away appears heartless, Sarah was protecting her child from the evil practices and false worship of other gods. Parenting isn’t always easy and parents don’t always see eye to eye. Nor is understanding God’s ways always easy. However, God does direct. Read [Isaiah 41:9-10](#).

[Acts 9](#): God calls Saul on the road to Damascus. As the creator, Jesus appears to him as a brilliant light who dispels his darkness of ignorance. Saul, whose sight was taken, now sees spiritually, hearing the Lord speak to him as Jesus. Saul now proclaims the name of Jesus as the Messiah. Both Paul and Jewish believers experience peace.

Notes:

Next Page Thursday’s Prayer Concerns