



Bible Reading 2021

## *Chart the Course*

Old Testament

Week of May 2, 2021

This week we will read the book of Ruth and then begin 1 Samuel. Ruth's story takes place in the age of Judges in Israel, a chaotic and somewhat violent period of Jewish history. Nonetheless, Ruth tells the happy story of God re-orienting a life through the intervention of a Kinsman Redeemer. The book gives a visual aid of how God has stepped in through Christ as a man and brother to redeem us in our lostness and need!

1 Samuel bridges the time of the Judges to the Kingdom era of Israelite history. Samuel acts as the final judge and anoints the first two kings of Israel, Saul and David. Through Samuel, God brings about a new phase of national existence when Israel possibly reaches its "prime" under King David. The book starts with the life of Samuel, brings Saul into play and introduces David, who serves under Saul. The book ends with the tragic decline and death of King Saul.

Monday, May 3: Read [\*Ruth 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 2021

Tuesday, May 4: Read [Ruth 3-4](#)

\*Chapter highlights:

\*A key passage for me:

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

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

Wednesday, May 5: Read [1 Samuel 1-3](#)

\*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.

1. 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*”.
2. 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**, May 6: Read [1 Samuel 4-7](#)

\*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 the Coronavirus crisis.
- Pray for the area churches and a greater spirit of unity and cooperation, especially as churches reunite after the quarantine.
- 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 Coronavirus outbreak to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ. Pray for God’s guidance and protection for our nation in the coming weeks and months.

Friday, May 7: Read [1 Samuel 8-10](#)

\*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), ***Sue Saunders*** (Bosnia), ***Matt and Becky Kooi*** (Tijuana), ***Daniel Jezowski*** (Wycliffe), ***Brad and Christa Babjack*** (University of West Virginia), ***Salomon and Megan Guzman*** (Tijuana), ***Alvaro and Raquel Garriga*** (Central Asia), ***Brendan and Ashley Camp*** (Columbia)