



Spiritual Disciplines Guide

Chart the Course

New Testament

Week of July 10, 2022

We continue reading the Pastoral Epistles with St. Paul's letter to Titus, a pastor on the island of Crete. Luke, 1-2 Timothy and Titus emphasized the need for sound doctrines. Paul takes time to emphasize the varying roles of older men, older women, younger men, younger women and slaves within the church at Crete. Two key phrases repeated throughout the letter are self control and good works. Both are necessary to overcome the lure and influence of a degraded culture such as Crete.

On Thursday, we will read Paul's letter to Philemon, a wealthy Christian plantation owner from Colosse. Writing from Rome, Paul likely led Onesimus, slave belonging to Philemon, to Christ. Over time Onesimus has taken up serving Paul's needs and eventually desires to return to Colosse to make amends with his old master, Philemon. And so, Paul send the letter, recommending that Onesimus to be forgiven and reinstated in his master's estate.

In keep with this past Sunday's theme of mindful worship, let's add a brief passage on worship to each day's reading from Titus and Philemon. Ask God to engage your mind and heart in true worship as you read each section of scripture.

Monday, July 11: Read [*Titus 1, Psalm 9*](#)

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 this summer season.

Tuesday, July 12: Read [*Titus 2, Psalm 145*](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, July 13: Read [*Titus 3, Isaiah 40*](#)

*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, July 14: Read [Philemon, Revelation 4-5](#)

*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.

Friday, July 15: Review *Titus and Philemon, Daniel 4*

*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*** (Bosnia), ***Daniel Jezowski*** (Wycliffe), ***Brad and Christa Babjack*** (University of West Virginia), ***Alvaro and Raquel Garriga*** (Central Asia), ***Pastor Roberto*** (Las Palmas Church, Tijuana)