

Week of November 01 2020



Be the CHURCH is DISCIPLESHIP

Spiritual Disciplines Guide:

- *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.*

Our spiritual disciplines the next few weeks will take us through the book of Proverbs. Solomon's proverbs highlight godly wisdom and many ways it is expressed in daily living, habits, decisions and relationships. In his book, he contrasts such things as wisdom and foolishness, duty and laziness, good and evil, honesty and deceit, humility and pride. Each day you will survey a chapter, highlight the themes Solomon presents, and then record a key verse that stands out in the text for you personally. Be ready to share what you are learning each week in church or in your small group.

Monday, November 2: Read [*Proverbs 21*](#)

The neat thing about Proverbs is that it covers such a wide variety of topics. Every verse of every chapter offers a different look at any number of case scenarios or topics. It's not hard to find a subject that applies to your own present circumstances as you read each chapter. Wisdom is like that. It is a broad blanket that encompasses pretty much every area of life. God's will is that we master life in its variety, primarily by learning to look to God for wisdom and direction and then by obeying his instructions. This would be akin to what Solomon in Proverbs calls "fearing the Lord".

My key verse:

Monday: Pray for yourself:

My relationship with God

My life roles and responsibilities

My personal needs/weak areas

My goals and objectives for 2020

Tuesday, November 3: Read [*Proverbs 22*](#)

Verse 7 states that the borrower is servant to the lender. The use of credit today in our society can easily be abused to the point where many are enslaved to their creditors. A wise word from King Solomon of old is, whenever possible, pay with cash. Borrowing money presumes on the future. We can't be sure that the money will come in as we need it. If our economy should crash, those who are in debt will be by far in the worst position to recover. Note 22:3, 26-27.

My key verse:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, November 4: Read [*Proverbs 23*](#)

Greed and gluttony are two sins cautioned against in this chapter. Solomon warns of the temptations to prefer selfish desires which ultimately ruin oneself. The contrast is to look to the Lord and to be considerate of others' needs. The promise is that God will take charge of your life and ultimately fulfill your hopes and desires. (verses 17-18).

My key verse:

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.
2. Future Faith Goals: Ask God to give our congregation a united vision for the future. Pray for God's clear leading in our 2020 plan 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, November 5: Read [Proverbs 24](#)

Proverbs 24:10-12 contains both a challenge to help the needy among us, as well as a warning. Who do you know that's "staggering toward slaughter"? Our assignment is to reach out and draw people back from death, especially those facing a spiritual death without Christ. God, who has served us, now wants to use us to serve others. The promise and the warning is a repayment in kind. These are definitely "troubled" times. We've got work to do!

My key verse:

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, Celebrate Recovery, Coach Eby Youth and Family Center, Damascus Road Ministry, Family Promise, Forgotten Man Ministries, Foster Closet of Branch County, 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 in the upcoming elections.

Friday, November 6: Read [*Proverbs 25*](#)

The next five chapters of Proverbs are “sayings of the wise” collected by “the men of Hezekiah”. King Hezekiah ruled over Judah some 200 years after Solomon. He was a godly king who brought both needed reforms and revival to Judah (see [*2 Chronicles 29*](#)). It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.

My key verse:

Friday: Pray for Our Missionaries

Juan & Adriana Palacios (Angola, Africa), ***David & Miriam Trott*** (Cochabamba, Bolivia), ***Mario Bloise*** (Argentina), ***Dan & DeAnn Gerard*** (San Antonio, TX), , ***Craig & Shelly Shafer*** (Sentani, Indonesia), ***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 Rachel Garriga*** (Central Asia), ***William and Salma Garcia*** (Tijuana church plant), ***Brendan and Ashley Camp*** (Columbia)