

Friday, April 19: Read [2 Thessalonians 3](#)

Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:



Spiritual Disciplines Guide

Week of April 14, 2024

Paul's two letters to the believers at Thessalonica address one of the more common questions Christians ask -- "*Why is this happening to me?*" Paul planted the church at Thessalonica in [Acts 17](#) during his second missionary journey. As you read in Acts, he is not well received by the Jewish zealots in the region and is run out of town, possibly after as short of time as one month. Acts tells us that Timothy brings him news of how well the fledgling church is doing in spite of persecution and so Paul pens the letters of 1 and 2 Thessalonians to assure them that what they are experiencing is not unusual and to encourage them to persevere through the opposition and trials they are facing. He makes special reference to the second coming of Jesus numerous times in the two letters, reminding them and us that God's plan and purposes will ultimately prevail. His instruction and admonitions to them can be helpful to us as well when we might face opposition to our faith as Christians in the days to come.

Monday, April 15: Read [1 Thessalonians 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 the spring season.

Friday: Pray for Our Missionaries

David & Miriam Trott (Spain), **Dan and DeAnn Gerard** (San Antonio, TX), **Craig and Shelly Schafer** (Asia-Pacific Region), **Joe and Sue Saunders-Robb** (Reliant), **Daniel Jezowski** (Papau, New Guinea), **Brad and Christa Babjack** (Michigan State University), **Alvaro and Raquel Garriga** (Central Asia), **Spectrum Ministries** (Tijuana, Mexico), **Gloria Stutzman** (Ensenada, Mexico)

Tuesday, April 16: Read [1 Thessalonians 3-4](#)

*Chapter highlights:

*A key passage for me:

*One point of application from today's reading:

Tuesday: Pray for Family by Name.

Wednesday, : April 17: Read [1 Thessalonians 5](#)

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.
5. 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.
6. 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, April 18: Read [2 Thessalonians 1-2](#)

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 unite through the Branch County Canopy of Prayer.
- 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 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.