
“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team

For the week of September 16, 2012

Share with others on the Prayer Vigil throughout the week, during our Connections time on Sundays, or using our FaceBook group “First Watch Prayer Vigil.” www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=63044309096 .

31 Prayers - #2

From *31 Days of Prayer* by Ruth and Warren Myers (Multnomah, 1997) – each week, use the prayer and “As You Have Time” features to reflect on the focus for the week.

Pray for a life of abiding in Christ

Dear Father, what a privilege it is to abide in Christ—to dwell in Him, sharing His life as a branch shares the life of a vine! Thank You that He is my life.

Work in my heart to keep me abiding in Christ and filled with His Spirit day by day and moment by moment, by simple faith. Show me any hindrances to this in my life, and enable me to fling them aside. May His Word live in me richly, may I keep His commandments and abide in His love. May I so fully identify with Him as the Vine that people around will see in me His nature and His life. Lord, may this be especially true in my relationships and work, my marriage and family life.

I pray these same things for the believers in my church and for other believers I know, especially _____ and _____. May the truths about abiding in Christ dawn on each of us in a fresh way.

Scripture references (by paragraph in the prayer)

John 15:4-5; Colossians 3:4

Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 12:1; John 15:7;

Colossians 3:16; John 15:10

John 14:10

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish. And it shall be done for you.

John 15:7

As You Have Time

ABIDING IN CHRIST

“Our acceptance with God and our access to Him is through Christ. As we consciously abide in Him, we are free from the power of our old nature. In this divine freedom from self-will, we are free to ask God for what we want, being influenced now by our new nature. And God will do it. Let us treasure this place of freedom through abiding in Christ—and believe that our requests right now are heard and will be answered.”

Andrew Murray

We find a night-and-day difference in our lives when we choose against struggling to be strong and peaceful and loving—and instead, count on the strength and peace and love of Christ’s life within us. And how good it is to know that abiding in Christ is not an unusual, added extra in the Christian life intended for a few “special” Christians. It’s part of God’s plan for each of His children.

In Coming Weeks: Personal Needs and Desires (with Thanksgiving); Wisdom and Guidance, Trials and Testing

The Prayer of Expectancy *Use this prayer sometime each week as an encouragement to stay focused*

Father in heaven, great and powerful and full of love, I lift my heart in praise for the privilege of coming to You in prayer. Give me special grace as I join Your exalted Son in His ministry of prayer.

Search my heart, Lord, and show me if any sin is hindering Your work in my life. May I respond without delay whenever You make me conscious of sin. How grateful I am for Your total forgiveness the moment I confess my sin, turning back to You as my Lord!

And Father, teach me to pray. How much I yearn to know Your will and Your way. I thank Your Son lives within me.

What a joy to know He is my teacher—that through Him I can learn to pray. I can learn to release Your boundless power for both my needs and the needs of many others, near and far. Teach me to pray.

Day by day may Your Spirit work in me, motivating me to abide in Christ and pray in faith, moving Your mighty hand to fulfill Your purposes. Keep reminding me that You are able to do infinitely more than I would ever dare to ask or imagine, by Your mighty power at work within me.

To You be the glory both now and forever.

Amen

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Take one or more days this week to go through the prayer focusing on the names you have written in the last paragraph.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the music, Scripture, and Lon Allison’s message* “God, the Evangelist.”
- Pray for the practical demonstration of lessons learned from Lon Allison’s LIF@E Time lessons this week and next, as well as the four-week video series on personal evangelism, “Just Walk Across the Room.” Pray that you will be personally challenged, along with many others at Evangel, that our witness will increase and that God will produce a harvest as a result.

*Materials from the sermon (podcast, plus pdf versions of sermon outline and PowerPoint notes) are available on the website by Monday

Touch Points is e-mailed every Friday and normally posted on the website (www.evbapt.org) by Saturday.

Printed copies are available in the lobby on Sunday.