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

For the week of September 23, 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 - #3

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 personal needs and desires, with thanksgiving

Father, thank You that I can come to You with simple confidence, as a little child comes to his father or mother asking for what he needs. What a gracious, generous Father You are!

I’m so grateful to You for giving me life and breath and everything else. Every good and perfect gift comes from You, the Creator of all lights, more constant and unchanging than the sun and moon and stars. You are a sun and a shield, bringing light and warmth into my life and protecting me from harm. You’ve promised that I won’t lack anything good—that I’ll be safe and secure without fear of harm—if I seek You with a reverent heart, if I choose to trust You and go Your way instead of my own. More and more, make me this kind of person.

Help me praise You often for Your great goodness and tender love and trust You more for all that I need. I come to you with my needs and desires. Draw me close to You as I bring them to You day by day.

I pray about my need for encouragement...for release from inner stress...for greater love and wisdom in relating to others, especially my family...for knowing how to handle my insecurities, my anxieties, my anger...for open doors in the future. I also pray for the needs of my parents, my brothers and sisters...my marriage partner and my marriage itself...my coworkers...my neighbors. Lord, work in special ways.

Thank You, Lord, that You are “so vastly wonderful, so utterly and completely delightful, that You can meet and overflow the deepest needs of my total nature, mysterious and deep as that nature is.” (A. W. Tozer)

You can throw the whole weight of your anxieties on him, for you are his personal concern.

1 Peter 5:7 Phillips

As You Have Time

THE DETAILS MATTER TO GOD. “Tell every detail of your needs in thankful prayer” (Philippians 4:6, Phillips). God cares deeply about you and wants you to talk to Him about all that concerns you. Record in a notebook your practical and emotional needs—and those of your family and friends. As missionary Roselind Goforth wrote, “There is nothing too small for His love.”

Remember to write down the answers as they come. Your faith will grow, and you’ll be reminded to thank your Father for what He does.

A YIELDING SPIRIT. Be careful not to pray with a demanding or complaining attitude. During their desert wanderings, the Israelites grumbled about the food God was providing each day. They craved meat—and insisted on getting it. Psalm 106:15 tells the result: “He gave them their request. But sent leanness into their soul.” They lost far more than they gained.

Paul prayed repeatedly that his “thorn in the flesh” would be removed, believing that to be God’s will. Then God told him it was better for him to have the thorn, that His strength would be completed through Paul’s weakness (2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

Paul prayed for something that was not God’s will. Why didn’t God chasten him? Because, above all else, Paul wanted to please God. He was mistaken about God’s will, but his heart was right.

In Coming Weeks: Wisdom and Guidance, Trials and Testing, Built Up by the Word of God

Scripture references (by paragraph in the prayer)

Luke 11:11-13

Acts 17:25, Timothy 6:17, James 1:17, Malachi 3:6,

Psalm 84:11; 34:9-10, Proverbs 1:33

Psalm 118:1, James 4:8

The Prayer of Expectancy See last week’s Touch Points, since there was no room to include it here this week

PRAYER PROMPTS

- If you find that praying with a spirit of thankfulness is difficult for you, make that a focus of your prayers, that God will show you how to align the attitude of your heart with his character and will.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message* “Soon and Very Soon.”
- Pray for the practical demonstration of lessons learned from Lon Allison’s LIF@E Time lessons last week and this week, 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.