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

For the week of September 30, 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 - #4

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 wisdom and guidance

Dear Lord, how generous and powerful You are! Able to listen to and help everyone in the world at the same time. What a wonderful Master to belong to! And thank You for revealing Your promises, commands, and principles, so that Your Spirit can guide me in my praying and in my living.

I come to You now, asking You for greater wisdom and understanding in spiritual things. May I know what You want for me in the important decisions I’m facing. Give me on-the-spot wisdom in conversations and in immediate decisions. In such decisions enable me to quickly commit them to You and trust You to help me say and do the right thing. Keep reminding me to do this, both at home and elsewhere so that I won’t depend on my own understanding.

Guide me in the long-range decisions I’m facing. Help me seek the Holy Spirit’s enlightenment from Your Word. Help me as I weigh the possibilities, then conclude the right steps to take and the right time to take them. How much I need Your wisdom and guidance!

I pray now about some special decisions I have to make regarding _____ and _____. And guide other believers, near and far, in the decisions they are facing—especially _____, and _____. As our Shepherd, lead us in good paths that please You.

Again I praise You for Your wonderful wisdom and power and Your deep desire for my highest good—each day and throughout my whole life.

Amen

We can be confident that he will listen to us whenever we ask him for anything in line with his will. And...we can be sure that he will give us what we ask for.

1 John 5:14-15 NLT

As You Have Time

AGREEING WITH WHAT GOD WANTS. How can we know what God wants us to ask for? Primarily through His Word, the Bible. When we know something is according to His Word, we can pray with confident faith. George Mueller wrote, “Faith is not a matter of impressions or probabilities or appearances. Faith is the assurance that what God has said in His Word is true, and that God will act accordingly. This confidence is faith.”

IF-IT-IS-YOUR-WILL PRAYERS. At times prayers which request extras we’re not fully assured are God’s will are part of our friendship with the Lord. We ask; we hold our desires in open hands, refusing to grasp or insist; and God answers. Sometimes He fulfills our desires, sometimes He asks us to wait, sometimes He refuses our requests so that He can give us something better. Aren’t we at times like a small child who wants to play with a shiny, sharp knife? What does Mom do? She gives the child something safer, something better.

DISCERNING GOD’S WILL THROUGH HIS WORD. You can find God’s will for your praying not only through His promises and commands in Scripture, but also through the truths, principles, and examples He has revealed there. The more familiar you become with His wonderful Word, the more you will know His ways of thinking. Then you can pray with increased confidence that you’re asking for what He wants. And in areas not clearly covered in the Bible, you can more readily discern whether you’re being prompted by the Spirit or by your own feelings and impressions.

In Coming Weeks: Trials and Testing, Built Up by the Word of God, Lordship and Protection from Evil

The Prayer of Expectancy

Remember to use this each week. It is included in the version posted on the [Prayer Vigil](#) page of the website.

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Pray for the Lord to teach you how to be responsive to his will by letting Christ pray through you.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the music, Scripture, and Dr. Schmutzer’s message from Ruth*.
- Pray for the practical demonstration of lessons learned from Lon Allison’s LIF@E Time lessons the last two weeks, as well as the four-week video series on personal evangelism, “Just Walk Across the Room” that started this week. 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.
