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

For the week of October 14, 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 - #6

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 the Word of God to build you up

Dear Lord, work in me so that I will always be alert and thankful when I pray, whether alone or with others. So much depends on prayer! Don’t let me be careless or distracted, or on-and-off in my praying.

May the same be true as I immerse myself in Your Word. I praise You for inspiring this marvelous book to build us up and set us free. How glad I am for the way it keeps me on track in my praying and my living!

May I look intently into Your Word day by day with a longing to know You better and do Your will at all times. May the Spirit unfold its truths to me; may He motivate me to meditate on it and apply it to my life. Make me diligent to hear and read it often, to make notes on it, to memorize it. Empower me to trust You and obey all Your commands. May Your Word be the joy and rejoicing of my heart.

Strengthen and renew me (and _____ and _____) through Your Word, keeping us from sin—so that time after time we may know the refreshment that comes from Your presence. Give us gracious boldness and power to share it with others, both believers and unbelievers.

I pray for Your rich blessing on Bible distribution, as well as on Bible preaching, teaching, and reading in our area—and beyond. Give special grace to those in countries where Bibles are scarce. May every child of Yours somehow get at least a New Testament and be nourished by its truths.

Amen

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.

Matthew 21:22

As You Have Time

HONORING GOD WITH FAITH. God wants you to trust His love, power, and faithfulness and believe He will answer your prayers. When doubts creep in, bring them honestly to God. Be like the man who told Jesus, “Lord, I believe, help my unbelief” (Mark 9:24). Often the Lord increases our faith by answering our prayers even though our faith is weak. But He wants us to pray with a growing faith, not just with wishes and hopes. Beware of doubting that you *want* God’s way and help. “That [double-minded] man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord” (James 1:7)

“To believe that the Lord will hear my prayer honors His truthfulness. His power. His love and generosity. His wisdom. If you wish to dishonor every attribute of God, pray with unbelief. But if you want to put a crown on the head of Him who has saved you, believe that if you ask He will give.” (C. H. Spurgeon)

“WE” AND “US” PRAYERS. Notice how Daniel identified with God’s people as he prayed for them, using “we” prayers rather than “they” prayers (Daniel. 9:4-19). And Jesus taught His disciples to pray “us” prayers—“Lead us not into temptation” (Matthew 6:13). Moses prayed a fresh and simply “us” prayer in Psalm 90:14. “Satisfy us in the morning with Your unfailing love.”

As you pray, your “us” can start with you and your spouse or closest friend, then you and your family; then in a widening circle finally encompass all believers.

In Coming Weeks: Lordship and Protection from Evil, For Love and Against Hindrances; For Strength and Well-Being

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

- Practice the “us” prayer this week, enlarging the circle of believers included each day. Pray specifically for one or more unbelievers you know, that the Lord will lead them to faith and make them one of “us.”
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message, “Being Ready” from Matthew 24 Pray specifically for those in your sphere of influence who need to give their lives to Christ
- Pray for the practical demonstration of lessons learned from Lon Allison’s LIF@E Time presentations and the current four-week video series on personal evangelism, “Just Walk Across the Room.” Pray 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.