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

For the week of October 21, 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](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=63044309096) .

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### 31 Prayers - #7

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 about lordship and protection from evil

Loving Father, faithful and full of power, I’m so grateful I can come to You with confidence, for You keep Your promises and answer prayer. Not one single word of Your good promises has ever failed.

Lord, I submit to You, presenting my life and my desires as a living sacrifice. I acknowledge You as Lord of my desires, my plans, my successes and failures, my place in the world, my friendships, my popularity. You are Lord of my present and future relationships, health, money, possessions, and human approval. How good it is to yield to You, knowing that You withhold no good thing from Your obedient children who trust You and call on You.

I choose to give up all right to myself, take up my cross day by day, and follow You. Give me power to resist the devil. Give me grace not to let the world squeeze me into its mold—its desires to indulge—its desire to impress. Instead, may Your Spirit remold my mind from within. I really need this, Father, so that I can know You better, delight in You more constantly, and experience Your good and perfect will for me.

Show Your mighty power, Lord, by keeping me following You closely. Do the same for my Christian friends and family members, especially the young ones.

May we steer clear of sin, but don’t let us isolate ourselves from the people of the world. Motivate us to reach out in love to them—our relatives, friends, neighbors, and associates—as Your lights shining in a dark place.

Amen

So brothers and sisters, since God has shown us great mercy; I beg you to offer your lives as a living sacrifice to him.

Romans 12:1

#### As You Have Time

ANYWHERE ON LIFE’S CHECKERBOARD. Are you ready to put yourself fully at the disposal of your gracious, merciful Lord who sacrificed His life for you? Are you willing to give up the things you want and surrender yourself daily to follow Jesus? We like this quote from an unknown author:

Simply to drop all our dreams and ambitions and preferences, and to have no mind about it at all, but be willing for God to shift us anywhere on life’s checkerboard, or bury us anywhere on in life’s garden, counting not our lives dear and loving them not unto death, gladly yielding ourselves for God to please Himself with, anywhere and anyway He chooses—that is rarely done.

If you are hesitant to drop your dreams and preferences into the loving hands of God, ask Him to work in you and make you willing (Philippians 2:13). Ask Him to nurture in His people everywhere the glad response of the hymn writer, “Ready to go, ready to stay, ready my place to fill...ready to do Your will.”

Pray also that his surrender will not be short-lived but lifelong, renewed quickly if reservations slip in. In *Shadow of the Almighty*, Jim Elliot said, “One does not surrender a life in an instant; that which is lifelong can only be surrendered in a lifetime.”

**In Coming Weeks:** For Love and Against Hindrances; For Strength and Well-Being, That Many Will Turn to Christ

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#### 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.

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#### PRAYER PROMPTS

- As you continue to pray for specific individuals, remember Jim Elliot’s words—pray that God will use you to bear witness at the right moment with the right words or actions to help them to move another step toward lifelong surrender.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message, “Am I Ready?” from Matthew 25. Pray specifically for those in your sphere of influence who need to hear that message.
- Pray for the practical demonstration of lessons learned from Lon Allison’s LIF@E Time presentations and our four-week video series on personal evangelism, “Just Walk Across the Room,” which ends today. Pray that our witness will increase and that God will produce a harvest as a result...and that the lessons learned will continue for weeks and months ahead.

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

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*Touch Points* is e-mailed every Friday and normally posted on the website ([www.evbapt.org](http://www.evbapt.org)) by Saturday.

Printed copies are available in the lobby on Sunday.