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

For the week of November 25, 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 - #12

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 God’s Working in Your Church

Father, thank You for the privilege of fellowship with brothers and sisters in Your family. Some are such caring and encouraging Christians, helping fellow believers grow, reaching out to the lost, and serving in countless ways. Others need a greater interest in You and Your loving purposes. Work in me, making me faithful to pray regularly for them, in view of how dear they are to You.

Lord, may I, and each of us in our church, grow in Your grace and in the knowledge of Your Son. In each service may we be worshipful and attentive, eager to learn and change our ways. And may we learn to use our spiritual gifts and serve as You lead.

Protect us from being deceived and led astray. Help us with our doubts, our stresses, our trials, and our relationships, especially in our families. Make our love for You and for one another increase and overflow. May those who have disputes or grievances resolve them quickly, before the end of the day. I pray these same things for our church’s leaders and workers. In new ways make us a glory to Your name.

May we so live together in harmony, both in our families and our church, that our unity will be like a sweet perfume to You and to others, both believers and unbelievers.

Amen

Let us spur one another on toward love and good deeds...Let us encourage one another.

Hebrews 10:24-25, NIV

As You Have Time

YOUR CHURCH FAMILY. Andrew Murray wrote, “Each of us is connected with some church or circle of believers who represent most directly Christ’s body to us. They have a special claim on our prayers, so pray regularly about their needs. Find others of like mind to join with you in private, specific petitions.”

Oh that when Christians meet and part,
These words were carved on every heart--
They’re clear to God!

However willful and unwise,

We’ll look on them with loving eyes--
They’re clear to God!

O wonder!—to the Eternal One.

Dear as His own beloved Son.

Dearer to Jesus than His blood.

Dear as the Spirit’s fixed abode—

They’re dear to God!

Anonymous

STRENGTH FOR PRAYER. Intercession is not easy. It requires supernatural strength. So our praying must not be by our own might or power, but by the Lord’s Spirit (Zech. 4:6). Choose to depend completely on God, drawing on His strength to help you pray. Offer praise that the Spirit of the all-powerful God who raised Christ from the dead lives in you. What vast resources of strength you have for all God wants you to do!

PRAYING ALONG WITH OTHERS. Praying aloud with others is a tangible way for you to carry your load—and bring encouragement. If it’s hard for you to pray aloud in a group, begin by doing it when you pray alone. Then start praying aloud with a friend. Don’t compare your praying with others. William Gurnall wrote: “Sometimes you hear another pray with freedom and fluency, while you can hardly get out a few broken words. Hence you are ready to accuse yourself and admire him, as if the gilding of the key makes it open the door better.”

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 or in the Touch Points for September 9 when we began this series

PRAYER PROMPTS

- If you have not been part of the Wednesday prayer meeting, consider it as a way of “praying along with others.” Let us honor Jesus’ desire that “My house [substitute Evangel] will be called a house of prayer.”
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message, “Your Place in God’s Plan” (Matthew 25:31-41).
- Pray for the practical demonstration of the Christmas message as we approach Advent....individually, in our families, among the Evangel family and especially among those who need to claim the hope and salvation offered by Jesus in their own hearts.

*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.