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

For the week of December 9, 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 - #14

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 Holiness

Holy Father, thank You that we are Your chosen ones, holy in Your sight and deeply loved. How wonderful that, by sacrificing Your Son, You have perfected us in our inmost being.

Now, Lord, enable me to live out what You have done deep within me. How much I need greater holiness! May Your Spirit of holiness empower me to grow in righteous thinking and living.

I pray this also for believers in my neighborhood and church—and for others who come to mind.

Make us quick to confess our sins and rely on You to forgive. Make us clean and pure in every part of our lives. Deliver us from the evil ways we used to cherish when we didn’t know any better. May we feed daily on Your holy Scriptures, letting You use them to cleanse our lives and remove our blemishes and wrinkles and defects.

I pray that Your people—and especially the Christians I know—will grow in holiness so that we will not dishonor Your name by compromised living. May we be blameless and contagious Christians, a good advertisement for the gospel.

I worship before You as the God of peace and well-being who is committed to making us holy. I count on You to do this day by day, giving us grace to cooperate with You. How I rejoice that You are faithful. You will continue Your work in us until the day when You bring us faultless into Your glorious presence, with unspeakable joy.

Amen

Dear brothers and sisters, you are foreigners and aliens here. So I warn you to keep away from evil desires because they fight against your very souls.

1 Peter 2:11, NLT

As You Have Time

THE HARD, PLEASANT WORK OF PRAYER. “To a healthy man work that interests him is a pleasure, he brings enormous energy to it. In the same way, the believer who is in full spiritual health will pray diligently.” Andrew Murray

GROWING IN HOLINESS AND FAITH. How do we increase our holiness and our faith? By pursuing a deeper knowledge of God. Every truth we grasp about Him increases our level of confidence in Him and makes us more like Him. So let’s pursue Him diligently—“Let us press on to know the LORD” (Hosea 6:3). “He rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Hebrews 11:6). George Mueller wrote, “Let no man think he can have any measure of victory over his inner corruption without taking it to the Lord again and again in prayer.” The same holds true for other believers.

I want a principle within
Of watchful, godly fear.
A sensitivity to sin,
A pain to feel it near.
Help me the first approach to feel
Of pride or wrong desire.
To catch the wandering of the will
And quench the kindling fire.

Charles Welsey

In coming weeks: Pray for the Church of the Future, for the Generation Now Growing Form; for Grace to be Diligent in Prayer, God’s Purifying Work

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

- Apply this week’s prayer to yourself, your family or those close to you, and to Evangel—that we will seek that “principle within and be transformed by God’s Word, in order to live in holiness as the kind of people that God calls us to be.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message, “Escape the Ultimate Horror” (Matthew 25:41, 46).
- Pray for the practical demonstration of the Christmas message through 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.