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

For the week of December 16, 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 - #15

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 Church of the Future, for the Generation Now Growing Up

Father, You are God throughout all generations, and You are deeply concerned about the temptations and moral pressures young people face today. I lift to You the young in my church, in my family and neighborhood, and beyond.

Draw them to Christ, and to true freedom through knowing and obeying Your Word. May they see You as good and desirable and loving, may they learn to love You with all their hearts and trust Your good plan for their futures. Give them godly role models and strong biblical convictions.

Give fathers and mothers great wisdom in bringing them up with loving discipline, Bible-centered instruction, and much prayer. And give children grace to love, respect, and obey their parents. May the parents be good examples in their walk with You and their love for each other. Work mightily to overcome problems in marriages and to keep the parents together. And give special grace and help to families with only one parent.

Guide parents in their decisions about their children’s education. Even when situations and educational opportunities are far from ideal—as with Samuel and David, who were surrounded by evil—enable parents to lay strong spiritual foundations in each child’s life.

Protect students from being misled by peer pressure and by the world’s ways of thinking and living. Encourage and strengthen Christian teachers in their important work. And I pray for all who minister to children, students, and families. May Your Spirit deeply touch many lives through them. I especially lift up _____, _____ and _____, asking wisdom, strength, and encouragement for them. Amen

I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

Isaiah 44:5, NIV

As You Have Time

GUARDIANS OF THE YOUNG. Select and pray for a few organizations that work with children, young people, and students. Pray that God will thwart influences of our age that especially concern you—drugs, pornography, sexual permissiveness and abuse, damaging music, negative influences through the media and through some school districts and colleges.

THE LANGUAGE OF A PARENT’S LONGING. Amy Carmichael founded the Dohnavur Fellowship in India for desperately needy children. She wrote a touching prayer for her many children, beseeching the Father to bring them safely through life’s troubled waters. “Read the language of our longing, Holy Father, for our children,” she pleaded. “And wherever they may bide, lead them Home at eventide.”

In a similar vein, Lamentations 2:19 says, “Arise, cry out in the night...pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord...For the lives of your children.” (NIV)

Build your personal collection of Bible verses to use in prayer for young people. As a start, meditate on the following, and apply them to the children and teenagers you pray for: Luke 2:52; Psalm 90:14, 16; 119:9-11, 18; 143:8-10. And let God use Isaiah 49:25 to urge you to pray for children in these troubled and perilous times.

In coming weeks: Pray for Grace to be Diligent in Prayer; God’s Purifying Work; Love in the Church

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

- How ironic that the school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut would occur on the day we release this edition—and how appropriate is the passage from Lamentations 2:19. May this tragic event stir us to even deeper prayer this week.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s service, the choir’s music, the Christmas hymns, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message, “If He Had Not Come” (Galatians 4:4).
- 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.