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

For the week of **March 17, 2013**

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 - #28

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 Presidents, Prime Ministers, and All in Authority

Father, how privileged I am to be able to pray to You! You are God Most High, ruler over the kingdoms of the world, infinitely greater than all earthly authorities. Nations are as nothing in Your sight—like a drop in a bucket. And You reduce political leaders to nothing by merely blowing on them. What a mighty God You are!

To think that You have decreed that our prayers actually influence what You do! And that You are alert day and night, ready to listen to our requests!

I praise You that the hearts of earthly rulers are like streams of water that You direct as You please. Bring about wise decisions in the government and courts in our country.

For the good of Your people and for the spread of the gospel, overrule bad decisions, mistakes, and evil plans. Do the same for all city and state governments, for leaders of other countries, and for the leadership of the United Nations.

Guide me to the current issues and problems You want me to focus prayer on, both in our country and in the world. Just now I especially pray about _____.
And I bring to You some current political issues and events that concern me. _____

_____.
Amen

I urge, then...that requests. Prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for...kings and all those

in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 NIV

As You Have Time

MAKING HISTORY. “In John’s vision of heaven in Revelation 8:3-5, we see that the same censer [the vessel filled with burning incense], which brings the prayers of believers before God also casts fire upon the earth. Remember today that your prayers go up like incense in God’s presence.”—Andrew Murray

PRAYING FOR RULERS. “He determines the course of world events; he removes kings and sets others on the throne” (Daniel 2:21, NLT). Meditate on Scripture passages or stories that encourage you to pray with confidence for rulers, for your nation, for international affairs. You may want to begin with one of the following: Exodus 9:15-16; Psalm 33:10-11; 75:6-7; Isaiah 37:21-22; 33-38; Daniel 4:24-37; Hebrews 11:32-34.

Andrew Murray wrote, “What faith in the power of prayer Paul had! He expected a few feeble and despised Christians to influence the mighty Roman emperors, and help secure peace and order! (1 Timothy 2:1-2), Today we can pray with the same conviction that gripped Paul—that prayer is a powerful influence in how God rules the world.”

Consider memorizing these words by David Bentley-Taylor:

The power of prayer cannot be diminished by distance; it is not limited by age, infirmity, political changes or restrictions. The power of prayer in the life of an obedient Christian can only be undermined by neglect.

In coming weeks: Pray for World Events and Peace; against Satan and Praise for Victory in Christ

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

- Pray that the Lord will lead three new families or individuals to us by Easter and three more by Memorial Day—people with a love for the Lord along with the gifts and passion to use them in His service and to meet our most urgent needs.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday, the music, Scripture, the report by Dennis and Julie Anderson, and Pastor Dave’s message “Not My Will, Buy Yours” (Matthew 26:38-46 *
- Pray for Evangel as we face significant challenges *and* opportunities. Pray specifically in three areas: RELATE (partner with a congregation looking for a place to worship), REORGANIZE (streamline our administrative structure, and RECRUIT (Worship Arts Director, VBS staff, and the efforts of each of us to witness to others, invite them to the kingdom and Evangel!

*A podcast of the sermon will be posted on the website by Monday, along with pdf versions of the PowerPoint notes and sermon outline

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.