"First Watch" Touch Points for Evangel's Prayer Vigil team

For the week of March 31, 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?qid=63044309096.

31 Prayers - #30

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 Against Satan; Praise for Victory in Christ

Father in heaven, thank You for including me as an intercessor, as one who, in Jesus' name, can help defeat the wicked one. How I rejoice that Jesus is Victor over all the powers of evil, including Satan himself.

I praise You that on the cross Jesus stripped the evil rulers and authorities of their power and won the victory over them—and that death could not keep Him in its power. You showed Your incomparable power by raising Him from the dead and seating Him in the place of supreme honor at Your right hand, a place infinitely superior to any other rule, authority, power, or lordship, both visible and invisible. There He now reigns in power for us—and prays for us! So great is His power that His enemies cringe before Him!

And You have raised me up and seated me with Him! I am in Him, high above all our spiritual enemies; and He is in me, far greater than Satan who is in the world.

Thank You that these things are true of all Your children. We are on the winning side! So I stand boldly before Your throne, grateful that I'm not praying alone. Rather, I'm joining Your Son and all Your "prayer warriors" as we strive in prayer against the enemy—as we advance Your purposes and defeat Satan's purposes in lives and situations throughout the world. And in our lives and situations.

Father, because of this great privilege as Your child, I stand boldly before You and pray for _____, ___, and

I praise You for the overwhelming victories we win as we pray in the name of Jesus—the Name above all names, both now and in all the ages to come.

Amen

"You will not succeed by our own strength or power; but by My Spirit," says the Lord All-Powerful.

Zechariah 4:6, NCV

As You Have Time

THE POWERS THAT HINDER. Andrew Murray wrote, "All the powers of evil seek to hinder our prayer life because prayer, by nature, involves conflict with opposing forces. May God give us grace to strive in prayer until we prevail."

To defeat the evil one through prayer, we must take up the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit—the Word of God. We learn to wield these weapons with great skill as we use statements and truths from the Scriptures in our prayers. This increases our faith and puts the enemy to flight. (See 2 Chronicles 13:18; Romans 10:17)

Study Ephesians 6:10-18, the Bible's most complete "call to arms: for spiritual warfare.

OUR POSITION OF TRIUMPH. To further prepare for spiritual battle, feed your soul on Christ's triumph through the Cross (Colossians 2:15), on the surpassing greatness of His power (Ephesians 1:19-23), on your exalted position in Christ (Ephesians 2:6) and on the high privilege of living in union with your risen and reigning Lord. (Colossians 3:1-4). As you meditate on these truths, memorize them, and let the Spirit grip your heart with them, you'll be prepared to intercede for those facing spiritual attack or oppression and for spiritual ventures that threaten the enemy.

Satan loves to attack before a venture for Christ and after a victory. Be alert for these times when your prayers are especially needed.

Next week: we conclude with "Pray that God's People Will Realize Their Worldwide Calling."

If you have suggestions for the type of material that would be helpful to you once we are done with this series, please contact Stu Johnson. The next series will begin April 14.

The Prayer of Expectancy

Remember to use this each week. It is included in the version posted on the <u>Prayer Vigil</u> page of the website or in the Touch Points for September 9 when we began this series

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Easter Sunday, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave's message "Jesus on Trial (Part 2)"*
 from Matthew 26, centered on Jesus's claim of deity and the proof of his resurrection be ready to share that good news with
 someone this week!
- 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