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

For the week of May 19, 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](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=63044309096) .

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This series—aimed to support our “Stepping Out in Faith—for the Sake of the Gospel” initiative—is based on *The One Year Book of Praying Through the Bible* by Cheri Fuller (Tyndale House, 2003). We will focus on specific topics that relate to faith, witness and outreach. “The driving force behind this proposal is to increase our evangelistic witness and the impact on our neighborhood and community.” (From the overview document, available at [www.evbapt.org/docs/steppingOut.pdf](http://www.evbapt.org/docs/steppingOut.pdf) )

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### Amazing Power

The Lord looks down from heaven and sees the whole human race. From his throne he observes all who live on the earth. He made their hearts, so he understands everything they do. The best-equipped army cannot save a king, nor is great strength enough to save a warrior. Don’t count on your warhorse to give you victory—for all its strength cannot save you.

*Psalm 33:13-17*

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#### Prayer for the Week

Thank you, Lord, for the assurance your Word gives me that you reign over heaven and earth and that no one can thwart your plans for life—and for the whole world. I put my trust in you today. Only you understand everything—even those things that are mysterious to me. Because you have all authority on earth and in heaven, I can rest in you.

#### Notable Quote

God is never in a panic, nothing can be done that he is not absolute master of, and no one in earth or heaven can shut a door he has opened, nor open a door he has shut. God alters the inevitable when we get in touch with him.

*Oswald Chambers (1874-1917)*

#### Reflection

Sometimes it seems as if the forces of evil are winning and godless rulers and superpowers are dominating our world. But these verses remind us of who is really in charge and calling the shots: the Lord Almighty. The same God who created the world with a word can shatter the plans of the nations and thwart all their schemes. No matter how out of control things may appear, God’s plan remains in place. He is running the show and knows the end from the beginning. No one is higher or mightier than the Lord! He governs our world, his kingdom will come, and his sovereign will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven! God’s intentions can never be shaken, and his plans stand firm forever. His amazing power is at work in the world, and he will carry out his eternal purpose to the last detail.

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#### PRAYER PROMPTS

- Pray for the application of this week’s Touch Power—God’s amazing power and plan—to situations you are facing. Be prepared to share that assurance with someone who needs to hear it this week, and offer to pray for their particular situation.
- Apply this week’s thoughts in your prayers for our “Stepping Out in Faith...for the Sake of the Gospel” initiative. Pray for the Lord’s power and plan to be clear as Church Council meets with Gary Rohrmayer (Exec. Min. of Converge MidAmerica) tomorrow evening, May 20. Pray also, and join us for the “Conversation with Council” session June 2 (on church governance); and for continued blessing as we commit ourselves to “Step Out....”
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s worship service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message “I’m Forgiven . . . Because He was Forsaken”\* from Matthew 27.
- Pray for the ministry of Vacation Bible School, directed this year by Bridgette Ecklund. Pray specifically for enough volunteers and for God’s blessing on Bridgette as she organizes this year’s program. Begin to pray also for the children who will come and for their families as well.
- Pray that more individuals will visit Evangel (several have come recently because they saw our sign) and pray that more will decide to return after their initial visit. Be ready to extend an invitation yourself as we seek the Lord’s blessing to be kingdom builders!

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

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Touch Points is e-mailed every Friday and normally posted on the website ([www.evbapt.org](http://www.evbapt.org)) by Saturday.

Printed copies are available in the lobby on Sunday.