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

For the week of September 15, 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 .

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)

Passing the Flame

Happy are those who fear the Lord. Yes, happy are those who delight in doing what he commands. Their children will be successful everywhere; an entire generation of godly people will be blessed . . . They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the Lord to care for them.

Psalm 112:1-2, 7

Prayer for the Week

Lord, it’s so easy to focus only on the present and forget that what I do today affects the future. May I walk in such obedience and reverence for you that an entire generation of godly people will be blessed. Help me to fear you and delight in doing all that you command. Teach me how to pass on the baton of faith to both my natural and spiritual children so that you, Lord, get all the glory.

Notable Quote

If I am a Christian, I am not set on saving my own skin, but on seeing that the salvation of God comes through me to others, and the great way is by intercession.

Oswald Chambers (1874-1917)

Reflection

God has given us a mandate to live in such a way that the next generation will know that the Lord is God and that he is worthy of our committing our lives to him. Then an entire generation of godly people will rise up and be blessed. This psalm describes some of the keys to blessing the next generations with the truth. Those who pass on the spiritual baton to the next generation will be people who fear and worship the Lord, who delight in doing his will, and who walk in such an intimate relationship with him that they don’t even fear bad times because they are so confident of God’s care for them. These godly men and women will not only run the race themselves and live a life of joy and purpose as they delight in doing what God commands, but they will also bless those of the next generation by passing their spiritual legacy to them. What is the best way for you to influence those who will come after you? Fear the Lord today, take delight in obeying him, and trust that he will care for you.

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Do you have an “impact list”—people for whom you are praying? Pray this week that the Lord will enrich your relationship with one or more of these people, and reflect on your role to “pass the baton” of faith.
- Continue to pray for our “Stepping Out in Faith” initiative: for the identification of a church planter, for unity and commitment as we seek to bring success to this evangelistic effort by growing ourselves. Take seriously Bill France’s challenge to pray that God will lead 25 adults and 50 children to Evangel by year’s end—a seemingly impossible task. It has already started.
- Praise God for the affirmation received last Wednesday in the meeting between Mark Albrecht of Converge MidAmerica and several from Evangel. There was a positive sense that we are on a God-ordained path. Pray that a planter may emerge from a number that Mark suggested could be a good fit; and for Mark’s meetings in the next two weeks at Trinity and Moody to seek out and encourage those who would make effective church planters.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday’s worship service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave’s message on “The Church: Beginning and Becoming” as he continues with the part 13 of this series, this week looking at the letter to the church at Sardis in Revelation 3.* Reflect on the letter that Jesus would write to the church in America today—as Pastor Dave suggested, write a letter to Evangel before our next “Conversation with Council” on October 6 (note the delay of one week because of a video on the seven churches on September 29).

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

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.