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## Touch Points for Evangel's Prayer Vigil team

For the week of March 23, 2014

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This series is aimed to support our "Stepping Out in Faith—for the Sake of the Gospel" initiative. It 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, prayer 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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### Point the Way

[Joshua said], "So honor the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly. Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshipped when they lived beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord alone. But if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, then choose today who you will serve. . . .But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord." The people replied, "We would never forsake the Lord and worship other gods."

*Joshua 24:14-16*

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#### Prayer for the Week

Dear God, I remember the times that you rescued me, healed me, guided me, and pushed obstacles out of my way. Thank you for allowing me to lead others, whether in the home or the workplace. I pray that those who look to me for leadership will be drawn to you through me. Help them to choose to serve you and no other.

#### Notable Quote

The true leader will have no desire to lord it over God's heritage, but will be humble, gentle, self-sacrificing and altogether as ready to follow as to lead, when the Spirit makes it clear that a wiser and more gifted man than himself has appeared.

*A. W. Tozer (1897-1963)*

#### Reflection

Joshua was nearing the end of his life the day he stood before the generation of young men. For most of them, the flight from Egypt was something their grandfathers spoke about. They knew about God. They had seen the walls of Jericho fall as Joshua led them around the fortified city, but they had also watched their fathers stray away to worship idols. Joshua knew that it was time for these men to choose their God. If they chose other gods, the foundation of the nation would crumble.

Though it can be flattering, our ministries, accomplishments, and endeavors mean little if they exalt a man or woman or a program rather than God. Just as Joshua pointed the way to God, each of us has the same opportunity. Ask God to help you examine your ministry or work. Whether you're a teacher, a salesperson, a mom, a pastor, or a computer technician, are you pointing the way to God? Will those who follow your leadership remember your deeds—or the God who accomplished them through you?

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### PRAYER PROMPTS

- Joshua represents the other end of the story that begins with Moses, the subject of Pastor Dave's current series from Exodus. Pray that their examples of leadership and servanthood will have an impact on those who hear these messages—and that we, in turn, will be an example to those we come in contact with throughout the week.
- Prayerfully reflect on the lessons from Sunday's worship service, the music, Scripture, and Pastor Dave's message from his series on Exodus, "Let My People Go: When My Servant Submits" (Exodus 2:11-12)\*. Pray for opportunities to apply these lessons throughout the week, within your own circle of influence and beyond.
- Continue to remember one family from your circle of influence for intercession. They could be a neighbor, coworker or relative. Pray for their struggles to be resolved, their health improved and their relationships strengthened. Ask the Lord to bring them to a fuller, closer relationship with Himself in faith and obedience.
- Continue to pray for opportunities to invite people to our services. Ask the Lord to open doors of conversation, connection or compassion with others to enable an offer of attendance.
- 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. Praise the Lord for ways he is meeting our requests, often in surprising ways. In the meantime, renew your dedication to meet Bill France's challenge to pray that God will lead 25 adults and 50 children to Evangel—a seemingly impossible task! But not impossible for God! Pray persistently that God will bring a great harvest in 2014!

\*A podcast of the sermon, plus pdf documents of the sermon outline and PowerPoint notes are posted on the website, normally by Monday.

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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.