
Touch Points for Evangel's Prayer Vigil team

For the week of May 4, 2014

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)

The Lord's Watchcare

The Lord himself watches over you! The Lord stands beside you as your protective shade. The sun will not hurt you by day, not the moon at night. The Lord keeps you from all evil and preserves your life. The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever.

Psalm 121:5-8

Prayer for the Week

Lord, I praise you for watching over and protecting my loved ones! What peace it gives me to know that you never slumber or sleep and that I can confidently entrust those I love to your care and keeping. Bless and keep [insert name(s)] coming and going both now and forever.

Notable Quote

Prayer is the key that shuts us up under God's protection and safeguard.

Unknown

Reflection

Recently our son left to drive across the country to begin a new chapter of his life as a doctor in the United States Navy. Traveling along in his packed-to-the-ceiling white minivan, Chris met his wife and new baby at the airport and took up residence in Bethesda, Maryland, later to serve at other military stations and naval hospitals around the nation. I knew that I could not be there to accompany him on the trip or drop by with a pot of soup on the day they began unpacking. But how wonderful to know that almighty God was beside him through the hundreds of miles he drove, and that my son was never alone! He might have gotten sleepy or tired, but God never naps or dozes. He was at Chris's side to protect and guide him and his young family in a bustling, unfamiliar city. How thankful I am that the Lord keeps watch over my son's coming and going, not only on that journey but throughout his life and forever.

Do you know someone who needs the Lord's watchcare? Pray this psalm for that person today and thank God for his divine protection.

PRAYER PROMPTS

- As suggested, think of one or more people who need the Lord's watchcare and prayer for them in light of the Psalm and thoughts for this week.
- Reflect on this week's worship service, the music, Scriptures, and Pastor Dave's sermon "Let My People Go...I Am with You" (Exodus 3:7-15). * Pray for direction in the application of truths and practical lessons.
- 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: pray especially this week for follow-up to last week's Assessment Center and the one person who is a potential candidate to be the church planter we seek. Continue to pray for new people to join us—and praise the Lord for the evidence of that, with new women in Coffeebreak, recent visitors on Sunday, and the Lord's work among the growing number who make use of our facilities: our own Saturday morning basketball ministry; First Russian Baptist Church; EDGE; DCFS training (on hiatus for the time being); and the potential connection with Karen Church, a congregation of people from Myanmar (Burma).

*A podcast of the sermon, along with PDF files of the sermon outline and PowerPoint notes will be posted on the website, normally by Monday.

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.