
Touch Points for Evangel's Prayer Vigil team

For the week of September 28, 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)

God's Heart for You

The high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, the Holy One, says this: "I live in that high and holy place with those whose spirits are contrite and humble. I refresh the humble and give new courage to those with repentant hearts."

Isaiah 57:15

Prayer for the Week

Oh, God, you are high and lifted up, glorious and exalted! And I am not. I bow before you and ask you to develop in me a heart of humility. Your Word says that you will not despise a repentant heart, and so I ask you to work that in me today. Thank you for meeting me right where I am and for bring renewed courage for my life.

Notable Quote

Between the humble and contrite heart and the majesty of heaven, there are no barriers. The only password is prayer.

Hosea Ballou

Reflection

This verse gives us a beautiful picture of God's relationship with his people. He is high and holy, the glorious, exalted One. He reigns over all in heaven and on earth. The Lord Almighty needs no house, for his dwelling place is all eternity. And yet he chooses to dwell with—literally to abide and make his home in—those who are anything but "high and holy" and who know it. Rather they are those whose spirits are humble, contrite, open, and teachable. Instead of being like the Pharisee in Luke 18, who thanked God that he wasn't like the unjust or other unsavory people, they are like the tax gatherer who cried out for God's love and mercy. But God's holy and loving heart is moved by individuals who humble themselves and acknowledge their weakness and dependence on him. Then he refreshes, revives, and gives new courage to these repentant souls. How gracious God is!

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Reflect on God's heart for you. How has it been made evident? Thank God for his desire to abide in you and pray for opportunities this week to help others to see that God has a heart for them.
- Reflect on this week's worship service, the music, Scriptures, and Pastor Dave's sermon "Let My People Go—To Honor Me"* (Exodus 8:16-24a), as he continues his series on Exodus. 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 for Joel Jupp as he develops his new role as Worship Leader in partnership with Pastor Dave. Continue in prayer for the efforts of Mark Albrecht and Converge MidAmerica to secure the right person to lead a church plant from our facilities, aimed at increasing evangelism in our area.

*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.