
Touch Points for Evangel's Prayer Vigil team

For the week of November 23, 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)

Boundless Mercy (A Prayer for Thanksgiving)

All honor to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for it is by his boundless mercy that God has given us the privilege of being born again. Now we live with a wonderful expectation because Jesus Christ rose again from the dead. For God has reserved a priceless inheritance for his children.

1 Peter 1:3-4

Prayer for the Week

Father, I bless you and praise you for the hope, expectation, and inheritance you have provided by the resurrection of your Son, our Savior. I praise you for the boundless mercy that gave me the privilege of being born again to a living hope. Thank you for giving me life with a wonderful expectation because you have reserved a priceless inheritance for me and for all your children.

Notable Quote

True faith is never found alone; it is accompanied by expectation.

C. S. Lewis

Reflection

These verses in 1 Peter are a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the marvelous gift of new birth we believers have because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Not only do we have our new lives on earth to be grateful for, but we are born again to a living, eternal hope. God's nature transforms our natures on the earth and gives us purpose, meaning, and hope not only for this life but for the one to come. We have a "wonderful expectation" of our future in heaven and a priceless inheritance because we are his children and heirs. This inheritance isn't like those we receive on earth. God watches over it, and it is "beyond the reach of change or decay."

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Take time to meditate on the Lord's boundless mercy and the priceless inheritance he has reserved for you, all because Christ rose from the dead. Ask him to increase your expectation that the best is yet to come.
 - Reflect on this week's worship service, the music, Scriptures, and the theme of thankfulness for what God has done for us and how he has worked through us to bless other people. Pray for opportunities to apply the lessons from the viewing of the film "God's Not Dead" in LIF@E Time.
 - 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. 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.
-

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.