
Touch Points for Evangel's Prayer Vigil team

For the week of November 30, 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)

Great Treasure

See how I love your commandments, Lord. Give back my life because of your unfailing love. All your words are true; all your just laws stand forever. Powerful people harass me without cause, but my heart trembles only at your word. I rejoice in your work like one who finds a great treasure.

Psalm 119:159-162

Prayer for the Week

Lord, thank you for the treasure of your Word. "All your words are true," and "all your just laws stand forever." Grant me an insatiable hunger for your Word. May my heart tremble at its truths. May I always rejoice in it, and may it be alive and powerful in me.

Notable Quote

The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold on me.

Martin Luther

Reflection

Each day we are confronted by people who harass us or by challenges that will be either stumbling blocks or stepping stones depending on our response to them. While it should be a goal of every Christian to engage each situation with the very heart of Jesus, it is important to understand that we achieve this objective primarily by letting the Word of God dwell richly in us. The Holy Spirit has always lived in and worked through the Word of God. And while the Old Testament people sought to make their ways righteous by observing the laws and keeping God's commandments, we now have the joy of Jesus, the physical manifestation of his Word, living within us in his Spirit. That is why we rejoice in this Word like one who finds a treasure. It is his Word in our hearts and minds that provides the Spirit with a vehicle through which to bring his will to bear on earth as it is in heaven.

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Praise God for his Word—not only as revealed in the Bible, but through "the joy of Jesus, the physical manifestation of his Word, living within us in his Spirit."
- Reflect on this week's worship service, the music, Scriptures, and Pastor Joel's sermon, "Psalm 8: Looking Elsewhere."* Pray that the Lord will lead you to ways to apply the lessons learned in your own walk with Christ and as you connect with different people this week.
- 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.

* A podcast of the sermon and other materials are normally posted on the website 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.