

“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team

For the week of August 2, 2015

Five Blessings

Committing to a Praying Life

After an extended time looking at insights from Paul Miller’s book “A Praying Life,” we want to continue the focus of that book. To use one of Miller’s favorite themes, we want to see God weave the story of our lives as we find intimacy with him through prayer.

Quote

Praying for others....

Jesus wants us to see that neighbor next door or the people sitting next to us on a plane or in a classroom are not interruptions to our schedule. They are there by divine appointment. Jesus wants you to see their needs, their loneliness, their longings, and he wants to give us the courage to reach out to them.

Rebecca Manley Pippert

These were [Jesus’] instructions to them: “The harvest is so great, but the workers are so few. Pray to the Lord of the harvest, and ask him to send out more workers for his fields. Go now.”

Luke 10:2-3

Question

As you go through each day, how often do you see other people as interruptions to be avoided...or as part of a faceless crowd that can simply be ignored...rather than as opportunities for the Holy Spirit to work through you in conversation or to bless them through prayer?

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Pray that the Lord will use you as an effective worker in the harvest. Pray also that He will encourage others at Evangel to reach our communities with the good news—the “evangel”—of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Reflect on this week’s worship service, the music, Scriptures, and Pastor Dave’s message “Balanced Boldness” (1 Thessalonians 2:7-13). Pray that the Lord will lead you to ways to apply the lessons learned in your own walk with Christ, as you connect with different people this week.
- Continue to pray for opportunities to invite people to our services, and to become engaged in spiritual discovery with the people of Evangel in other ways as well. Ask the Lord to open doors of conversation, connection or compassion with others to enable that engagement this week.

* A podcast of the sermon and other materials will be posted on the website by Monday.

Touch Points is e-mailed every Friday, posted on the website (www.evbapt.org), with printed copies available in the lobby. To be included in the weekly e-mail, use the Contact Us form on the website and request “add me to the Prayer Vigil list.”

Renewal at Evangel

Five Blessings for Fall Outreach at Evangel

Starting this week, and leading up to the resumption of programs in September, we invite you to join in the “Five Blessings” approach to pray for the startup of those programs, including:

- Coffeebreak
- LIF@Etime
- Small Groups
- Ministry initiatives and staff for Evangel
- Ministry opportunities for you to extend care and witness to others, including an invitation to Evangel

The Five Blessings approach (adapted from Houses of Prayer Everywhere—HOPE):

Pray
5 blessings for
5 people/families for
5 minutes a day
5 days a week for
5 weeks

You can use the BLESS acronym as a guide to shaping your prayers:

Body—*health, protection, strength*
Labor—*work, income, security*
Emoional—*joy, peace, hope*
Social—*love, marriage, family, friends*
Spiritual—*salvation, faith, grace*

You can use this helpful framework at any time for your own Impact List.