

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

For the week of August 23, 2015

### Five Blessings - Week 4

#### Committing to a Praying Life

The quote section is inspired by *The One Year® Book of Praying Through the Bible* by Cheri Fuller (Tyndale, 2003)

#### Quote

##### **When silence is the answer...**

You say, “But He has not answered.” He has, He is so near to you that His silence is the answer. His silence is big with terrific meaning that you cannot understand yet but presently will.

*Oswald Chambers*

Why, O Lord, do you stand far away? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

*Psalm 10:1 ESV*

#### Question

What is the “terrific meaning” that Chambers refers to? Is God *waiting for you*...to do something, change something in your life, repent, straighten out a relationship, or talk to Him with complete honesty...?

The Five Blessings emphasis will end next week. Starting in September we’ll start using material from “Time Out in Tough Times,” from the editors of Guideposts. Each week will feature a Scripture, reflection, short prayer, and a specific thing to do during the week.

#### Renewal at Evangel

##### **Five Blessings for Fall Outreach at Evangel**

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 these 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:

**B**ody—*health, protection, strength*

**L**abor—*work, income, security*

**E**mootional—*joy, peace, hope*

**S**ocial—*love, marriage, family, friends*

**S**piritual—*salvation, faith, grace*

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

#### PRAYER PROMPTS

- Pray for those who are feeling God’s silence...to recognize that He is still near, and discover what is that terrific meaning
- Reflect on this week’s worship service, the music, Scriptures, and Pastor Dave’s message “The Least of These” (Psalm 139:13-16). 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](http://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.”