

“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team
For the week of September 20, 2015

When a Friend is Headed for Trouble

The current series of Touch Points is taken from “Time Out in Tough Times,” from the editors of Guideposts (MIF Books, 2009). The reflections come from a variety of writers. This week we continue the focus on friends. That focus will change over time as we work our way through selections from the book.

READ: For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life. . . .

Proverbs 6:23

REFLECT: One stormy night a newly commissioned navy captain in his first assignment saw a light moving steadily in the direction of his ship. He ordered the signalman to send the following message: “Change your course ten degrees to the south.”

The reply came back: “Change *your* course ten degrees to the north.”

The captain was determined not to give way to another vessel, and so he sent a counter message: “Alter *your* direction ten degrees. I am the captain.”

The answer flashed back. “Alter *your* direction. I am a lighthouse!”

There are times when I have allowed self-will to set me off on a collision course. But God, whose Word is like a lighthouse with a penetrating and unchangeable beacon, reveals a rocky shore ahead and I finally do what I am sure that captain did. I obey.

Doris Haas

PRAY: Lord, my friend doesn’t have a clue where the course he/she is on will take him/her. Please give him/her the desire to read the commands in Your Word and obey.

DO: Give your friend a small lighthouse figurine or picture and tell him/her this story.

ADDITIONAL PRAYER PROMPTS

- Use the Pause to Pray as a guide to focus on other concerns through the week. *The full version used on Wednesday evenings is on the table in the lobby and on the website (see Archives).*
- Reflect on this week’s worship service, the music, Scriptures, and Pastor Dave’s message “Intimacy Approached, Intimacy Affirmed” (1 Thessalonians 4:1-3). 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.”