

“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team
For the week of February 7, 2016

When You Have a Chance to Do a Secret Kindness

The current series of Touch Points is taken from “Time Out in Tough Times,” from the editors of Guide-posts (MIF Books, 2009). The reflections come from a variety of writers.

READ: Your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly. *Mathew 6:4*

REFLECT: I turned into our driveway and saw several sheets of wet paper littering the yard. If I didn’t pick them up, I knew my husband Jim would when he came home. The temptation to leave the papers was strong.

Suddenly Ruth’s name came to mind. When she babysat our daughter, mysterious little things happened at our house. The chrome on the stove might look shinier, or smudges might have disappeared from the kitchen window.

I asked Ruth if she ever cleaned things while I was gone. She did. She said she tried to do one nice thing secretly every single day.

With that memory still fresh, I climbed out of the car and picked up the papers. And when Jim came home from work, I just smiled and basked in the warmth that comes from doing secret kindnesses.

Terry Helwig

PRAY: *Lord God, I’m so capable of not doing that secret kindness, of leaving it because I know someone else will do it. Forgive me, Lord. Help me to first think of doing the kind thing.*

DO: Remember that feeling of satisfaction the last time you did a little kindness.

ADDITIONAL PRAYER PROMPTS

- Use the Pause to Pray as a guide to focus on other concerns through the week—it will be used in our weekly prayer time, which has moved to Sundays at 11:15am for the winter months. Copies can also be found in the lobby and in the Archive section on the website (evbapt.org).
- Reflect on this week’s worship service; the music, scripture, and Pastor Dave’s sermon “Being Prepared” (1 Thessalonians 5:4-8)*—that it will encourage your 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.
- Pray for the work of our Planning Group (Church Council and a number of additional people) as they explore options for Evangel’s future. The Ministry Moment today will outline a number of opportunities for prayer, information and decision-making throughout February (The online bulletin includes a handout).

** 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.”