

“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team
For the week of May 22, 2016

When You Need God’s Guidance

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: I will make darkness light before them, And crooked places straight. . . . *Isaiah 42:16*

REFLECT: I took my seat in a small local theater. Pesky worries whirled in my head. *Should I take early retirement from my part-time nursing job? How will I support myself?* So many life-changing decisions.

The theater darkened. The curtains on the stage parted. A beam of light illuminated the stage. *Lord, light up my life like that,* I thought, *I need more light to make wise decisions.*

Halfway through the first scene, an usher came down the aisle, guiding two latecomers. The flashlight he held formed a small circle of light at their feet. Slowly, he moved ahead to the appropriate row; then he shown the light onto two vacant seats.

That’s how I lead you! The thought was crystal clear, as though I heard God speaking. *As you read My Word and obey it, you’ll have enough light to know what step to take next. And then there’ll be more light for the next step, and the next. Trust Me.*

Thankfully, I relaxed and enjoyed the rest of the play.

—Helen Grace Lescheid

PRAY: *Lord Jesus, You are Light and I will see You more than I seek answers from You.*

DO: Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your Bible reading until you find something that applies perfectly to the decision you’re trying to make.

ADDITIONAL PRAYER PROMPTS

- Use the Pause to Pray as a guide to focus on other concerns through the week. Copies can be found in the lobby and in the Archive section on the website (evbapt.org/archive). The full Pause to Pray is used in our Wednesday prayer time. An abbreviated version appears in the Sunday bulletin.
- Reflect on this week’s worship service—the music, Scripture, Pastor Dave’s message “Our Gathering Together” (2 Thessalonians 2:1-3)*—that all will help as you go through this week; for your own walk with Christ, and that you may be a blessing and witness to people you have contact with during the 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 and compassion with others to enable that engagement this week.
- Pray that God will bless our succession planning efforts (Pastor Dave and Jennie anticipate retirement, tentatively late spring 2017). Pray specifically this week for today’s Open Forum (the first was last week and we will likely do another in mid- to late-June). See the Succession Planning page on our [website](#), with additional updates and information to help you better understand our succession planning process. (The handout from the forum will not be posted on the website. See Stu Johnson or Pastor Dave if you missed the sessions and would like a copy).

* A podcast of the sermon and PDF files of other material 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.”