

“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team
For the week of May 29, 2016

When You Need 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: Give ear and hear my voice, listen and hear my speech. . . . *Isaiah 38:23*

REFLECT: After years of volunteering with the Parent’s Association at my children’s school, I was asked to be its president, a two-year commitment with much responsibility. When I prayed about it, I didn’t feel any urging from God. Just a nudge to ask others what they thought.

My mom was thrilled. “You have to say yes.” My husband Paul was pleased. “You love volunteering at school,” he said. “You could do a lot of good.” And my kids thought it was way cool. “You get your picture in the yearbook now.”

Even with their support, I still wasn’t sure what God wanted me to do. Then one day, sitting on my back-porch swing (my favorite spot), it finally came to me: *I sent all these people who know you and love you to give you advice. What more do you need?*

God often speaks through the people in my life. I needed to listen to them. I got up and made a couple of phone calls...to accept the job, of course!

—Gina Bridgeman

PRAY: *I can make hearing from You so much more difficult than it needs to be, Father. Thank You for getting Your message across anyway.*

DO: God won’t necessarily guide you the same way every time. Ask how He wants you to do it *this* time.

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 “What Are We Waiting For?” (2 Thessalonians 2:1-5)*—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). See Pause to Pray for specific prayer requests. See the Succession Planning page on our [website](http://www.evangel.org), with additional updates and information to help you better understand our succession planning process. (The handout from the Open Forums May 15 and 22 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.evangel.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.”