

**“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team**  
**For the week of March 26, 2017**

**Passing It On (Psalm 71:15-17)**

*As Evangel faces change in 2017, we recognize how important prayer has been—and will continue to be—as we participate in the unfolding of God’s plan. Our Touch Points reflections come from “The One Year Book of Praying Through the Bible” by Cheri Fuller (Tyndale, 2003)..*

**This week’s reflection was chosen because it ties in to the idea of “passing the baton” from Evangel to Vineyard Church of DuPage (see more in the prayer prompts below).**

**READ:** I will tell everyone about your righteousness. All day long I will proclaim your saving power, for I am overwhelmed by how much you have done for me. I will praise your mighty deeds, O Sovereign Lord. I will tell everyone that you alone are just and good. O God, you have taught me from my earliest childhood, and I have constantly told others about the wonderful things you do. *Psalm 71:15-17*

**REFLECT:** The psalmist, now old, is looking on his life and the history of his people. Although he has been assailed by the wicked and seen troubles, many and bitter, his first resource has always been God. He is confident that the same God he trusted as a youth will lead him through his present trials to restoration and blessing. Woven throughout Psalm 71 is a theme of gratefulness for God’s faithfulness and protection in the past, even when the psalmist was suffering loneliness, betrayal, and great hardship. However, the psalmist isn’t content just to reminisce about the good things the Lord has done in the past or merely praise God in front of others. His greatest desire is to proclaim the Lord’s power and mighty miracles to the next generation. He calls on God, knowing that he needs divine help to pass on a heritage of faith in the one true God to all who will come after him. We, too, have a great responsibility and privilege to declare God’s power to the next generation. Ask God for the grace and strength to be a role model in your faith, witness, and prayer life to those who follow you.

**PRAY:** *LORD, let me proclaim your power to this new generation and tell my children, grandchildren, and youth in my church and nation the wonderful things you have done for us. Thank you for your faithfulness in my life through troubles and joy. I pray that a new generation will rise up and be devoted to you.*

**QUOTE:** Each generation of Christians, and each people to which the Christian gospel is preached, makes its own contribution to the understanding of the riches of Jesus Christ. *C. B. Moss*

**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](http://evbapt.org/archive)).
- Reflect on this week’s worship service—the music, Scripture, Pastor Dave’s message\* “Days of Elijah—The Honor of a Hard Choice” (1 Kings 19:19-21)—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.
- With the membership approval last week of the basic terms of the sale of Evangel’s property to Vineyard Church of DuPage, pray God’s blessing on all the work that remains in the next few months: developing the final sale contract, caring for staff, setting up the Evangel Missions Legacy Fund, and the myriad other details of the transition process.

\* a podcast and other materials from the service will be posted on the website by Monday.

*Touch Points is e-mailed every Friday, posted on the website ([evbapt.org](http://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.”*