

**“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team**  
**For the week of April 2, 2017**

***A Heart of Praise (Psalm 75:9)***

*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)..*

**READ:** As for me, I will always proclaim what God has done; I will sing praise to the God of Israel.  
*Psalm 75:9*

**REFLECT:** Often when we thank God, we are responding to what he does, how he is answering our prayers and working out his plan in our lives. When we worship, on the other hand, we are adoring, honoring, and embracing God simply for who he is. Worship is the overflow of hearts that are thankful and full of wonder. We worship God when we lift our hearts and voices in grateful acknowledgment of how he has revealed himself in our lives: our faithful and trustworthy provider, protector, redeemer, refuge, comforter, healer, sustainer, source of strength, helper, father, and friend. On and on the list goes. With praise-filled hearts we can proclaim all that God is and has done in our lives. Nothing delights the heart of our Father more than songs of praise from the lips of his children. It’s what we were created for, and it deepens our dependence on him. What an awesome God we serve! Express to the Lord you desire to worship him with all your heart, soul, and mind. Spend time in his presence meditating on all God has done and who he is to you.

**PRAY:** *OH, LORD, how I praise the wonders of your works! May I be found faithful in proclaiming through a heart of praise all that you are and have done in my life. You are so many things to me—you are my everything! Thank you for the privilege of receiving a heart that is able to praise you every single day of my life.*

**QUOTE:** The heart must have in it the grace of prayer to sing the praises of God. *E. M. Bounds*

**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—Our Neighbor, Naboth” (1 Kings 21:1-16)—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.
- Continue to prayer for the succession planning process as we move through the transition of our property from Evangel to Vineyard Church of DuPage in the coming months, with the formal transfer likely to occur on or about August 1. The Negotiating Team is pursuing the legal details needed, our Pastor Dave meets Vineyard’s Pastor Dave (Frederick) on Monday, and the Planning Group will meet on Thursday of this week to lay out the many other details involved in the transition. An Open House for Vineyard to visit Evangel is tentatively planned following Easter, before Wheaton College students finish their school year.

\* 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.”*