

“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team
For the week of May 28, 2017

Tender Mercies (Psalm 119:76-77)

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: Now let your unfailing love comfort me, just as you promised me, your servant. Surround me with your tender mercies so I may live, for your law is my delight. *Psalm 119:76-77*

REFLECT: I have prayed these verses from Psalm 119 for a friend in the hospital battling leukemia. I have also prayed them for a brokenhearted mother whose son is incarcerated and for an older Christian friend who is hospitalized with severe clinical depression following a stroke. When we pray, *Lord, may your unfailing love comfort those who need it today. Surround them with your tender mercies. And may they feel and experience and believe the love you have toward them,* it is a powerful prayer that God delights to answer, for he is the God of all comfort. He is full of loving-kindness and tender mercies. Do you know someone who is in the midst of a trial, someone to be comforted by the Lord’s unfailing love today? What friends or family members need to be surrounded with God’s tender mercies? As you pray for your friends and loved ones, you can be confident that there is no pain or suffering too deep for the love and mercy of God to reach.

PRAY: *LORD, you are the God of all comfort. How grateful I am. I pray that your unfailing love will comfort _____ and that your tender mercies will surround _____. These dear ones need you Spirit’s tenderness today. May they experience you in the midst of their pain, and please touch them with healing today.*

QUOTE: God’s mercy is boundless, free, and through Jesus Christ our Lord, available to us now in our present situation. *A. W. Tozer*

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).
- Reflect on this week’s worship service—the music, Scripture, Pastor Dave’s message* “What a Way to Go” (2 Kings 2:1-14, continuing his series on Elijah)—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, Church Council, and others are attending to a myriad of details. Pray for wisdom, energy, and attention to detail as there is much to do! Pray also that, through it all and despite much sadness, in the end there will be a sense of joy in successfully “ending well” and “passing the baton” to Vineyard.

* 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), 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.”