

**“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team**  
**For the week of July 23, 2017**

**Foxhole Prayers (2 Chronicles 14:11)**

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

**Next week will be the final Touch Points as Evangel comes to an end as an active church (its missions commitment will go on for a decade through the Evangel Baptist Foundation). The Evangel website (evbapt.org) will remain active, focusing on Foundation activity, but archived sermon resources and Touch Points will be available. More next week.**

**READ:** Asa cried out to the Lord his God, “O Lord, no one but you can help the powerless against the mighty! Help us, O Lord our God, for we trust in you alone. It is in your name that we have come against this vast horde. O Lord, you are our God; do not let mere men prevail against you!”

*2 Chronicles 14:11*

**REFLECT:** A foxhole prayer is born when a person dives into prayer out of fear or desperation, when all the usual trusted resources have failed and prayer is a last resort. Asa was surrounded by a million warriors, but his cry to God was not a foxhole prayer. It was an affirmation of his faith nurtured during times of peace. Though Asa had inherited riches and power from his father, he has learned that it was he Lord who was his provider. He called on him to help him live in trust each day. When our lives are uncomplicated, it is easy to rely on our own strength and to forget that it is God who gives us our very breath. When the hard times come, and they do come for all of us, it is our daily trust in him that will allow us to call out to our Savior in confidence.

**PRAY:** *GREAT PROVIDER, help me exercise my faith daily that I might instinctively look to you during the peaceful times as well as in the storms of life. Help me to see how you show up in even the smallest details of my life. Thank you for times of peace and for your strength during times of chaos.*

**QUOTE:** All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen. *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

**ADDITIONAL PRAYER PROMPTS**

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- 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)).
- Thank the Lord for memories shared in today’s “Farewell” worship service\*.
- Pray for everyone who has called Evangel home as we seek new places of worship, service and blessing.
- Pray for our staff as they also find themselves in new situations: for Pastor Dave and Jennie as they move to the Milwaukee area to begin a new phase of life and ministry closer to family; for Gloria Neal as she seeks employment that will use her gifts and provide for the needs of her family; for Lee McCullough as he will continue to visit a number of shut-ins,
- Pray for the Backyard Bible Club this week, Evangel’s last official activity, as we host this activity organized by College Church. Pray for the Evangel and Vineyard volunteers who will be helping. Pray especially for the children, that seeds of faith will be planted that will bear fruit as child matures.

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

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*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.”*