

**“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team**  
**For the week of November 22, 2015**

***When Help Comes Unexpectedly***

*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.*

***This week’s topic relates to the theme of “Goodness” used in the first LIF@E Time session today looking at gospel messages in the film “It’s a Wonderful Life.” It also is a reminder this week of Thanksgiving to be a blessing to others.***

**READ:** He who does good is of God. . . 3 John 11

**REFLECT:** One freezing night during basic training, my buddy and I tried in vain to hammer our wooden tent pegs into the crusty ground. We struggled on, thinking of the cold night ahead, managing only to break another wooden peg.

Then someone said over my shoulder, “You guys look like you could use a little help.”

He was tall, dressed in the same army-issue clothing. He had a small sledgehammer and six brand-new metal tent pegs. It took him no more than a minute to set up our tent, then he moved on.

“I was praying for help,” Jack muttered, “but I never expected an angel.”

I believe the tent-peg man *was* an angel. We never saw him again, and no one could account for his presence than night.

Years later, I did someone an anonymous favor—small, but significant to the person it helped. So, stay alert. You might have been helped by an angel. Any might be called upon to be one.

*James McDermott*

**PRAY:** *Father, provide help to those struggling to get the job done, especially those who wouldn’t think to ask for it.*

**DO:** Offer a hand to someone who clearly needs it.

**ADDITIONAL PRAYER PROMPTS**

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- Use the Pause to Pray as a guide to focus on other concerns through the week. *The full version used on Wednesday evenings is on the table in the lobby and on the website (see Archives).*
- Reflect on this week’s Thanksgiving worship service, the music, Scriptures, the “Thanks Sharing,” and Pastor Dave’s meditation\*. Pray that the Lord will lead you to ways to apply the lessons learned in your own walk with Christ, as you connect with different people this week. Pray also for those in need who will be recipients of the items shared through People’s Resource Center.
- 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 or compassion with others to enable that engagement this week.

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\* A podcast of the sermon and other materials will be posted on the website by Monday.

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