

# The 5-Part Watchman's Prompt

*Stop getting mush out of AI. Give the order clearly the first time.*

Most men get vague, generic answers out of AI because they put vague, generic prompts in. The fix is structure. A complete prompt has five parts — learn them once, and the same thirty-minute task starts taking eight, because you're not gambling on every prompt; you're giving an order a competent subordinate could actually execute.

## 1 • ROLE

Tell the AI who to be. "You are a CPA reviewing a small-business P&L," not "help me with my finances." A named role pulls sharper, more expert output.

## 2 • CONTEXT

Give it what it can't guess — your situation, the constraints you're under, what's already been tried. The AI is only as good as what you hand it.

## 3 • INTENT

Say the actual outcome you want. Not "thoughts on this email" but "rewrite this so it's shorter and lands the deadline without sounding harsh."

## 4 • CONSTRAINTS

Set the guardrails: length, tone, what to avoid, what's off-limits. This is where the watchman draws his lines — "no specifics about my family," "under 150 words."

## 5 • FORMAT

Name the shape of the answer: a table, three bullets, a draft email, an outline. You'll stop re-rolling the dice and start getting usable output the first time.

**ALL FIVE, IN ONE PROMPT**

*“You are a seasoned men’s-ministry leader (role). I’m preparing a 10-minute talk for eight men on stewarding technology at home (context). I want an outline that opens with a story and ends with one concrete challenge (intent). Keep it under 250 words, plain language, no clichés, nothing about my own family (constraints). Give it to me as a bulleted outline with a one-line takeaway (format).”*

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This is one rep from **The Watchman’s Course** — the 12-week AI mission for Christian men who want to wield technology for God’s glory without losing themselves to it. If this helped, the full course is where it goes deep.

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