

The Watchman's Manual

Chapter 1 — The Post

Adam Johns · Fredericksburg, Virginia · August 2026 · Free first chapter. Full book still in the fight.

I did not come home from the Corps to become a content creator. I came home to stand a post.

A post is not a brand. It is not a platform. It is not a Monday-morning mood. A post is a stretch of wall you refuse to leave because someone you love is sleeping behind it. If you are a husband, a father, a citizen, or a brother in Christ, you already have one. The only open question is whether you are on it.

So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me.

Ezekiel 33:7, NKJV

That verse is the spine of this manual. God does not first ask the watchman for a personality. He gives him a word, then a warning, then a people. Hear. Warn. Stay. That is the job.

WHAT A WATCHMAN IS NOT

He is not a guru. He is not the Holy Spirit. He is not the man who has already arrived and now sells the map. I am a brother who has been knocked down, gotten back up, and still has to take the next watch. If you came here looking for a finished man, close the file. If you came looking for a post you can actually stand, stay with me.

A watchman is also not a lone ranger. My old call sign was MOOP — Marine On Own Program. That independence almost became a religion. It does not get to be one anymore. Iron still sharpens iron. Isolation is how the wall gets flanked.

THE FIVE FRONTS

Every man I counsel is already in a five-front war whether he names it or not:

1. **Heart** — what you love, hide, and refuse to confess.
2. **Spirit** — whether the Word is actually in you, or only near you.
3. **Body** — the temple you either steward or spend.
4. **Provision** — money, work, and the quiet theology of your budget.
5. **Mind** — the stories you let rehearse after the lights go out.

You do not get to pick a favorite front and call it discipleship. A city with four walls up and one gate open is not secure. It is waiting.

THE FIVE WATCHES

This ministry already runs a daily reading plan on those same hours. The book will go deeper. For now, treat the clock as a reminder that a man does not “get spiritual” once. He reports.

- **0600 Morning Wisdom** — Proverbs before the inbox.
- **0700 Husband’s Post** — lead the woman you vowed to love.
- **1100 Father’s Charge** — form the children God assigned you.
- **1500 Citizen’s Stand** — do the next honest thing in the city where you live.
- **2100 Evening Peace** — shut the day down before it shuts you down.

If those times are impossible this week, do not throw out the post. Keep the order. Move the clock. A late watch is still a watch. A skipped watch is a hole in the wall.

TONIGHT’S ORDERS

1. Name your post in one sentence: *I am the watchman of* _____. Wife, sons, daughter, house, block, church. Write it where you will see it.
2. Open Ezekiel 33:1–9 and read it aloud. Not scanned. Aloud.
3. Pick the weakest of the five fronts from the last fourteen days. Tell one brother the truth about it before midnight tomorrow.
4. Take one watch tomorrow at a real clock time. Ten honest minutes beats a plan you never stand.

The rest of this book will walk family leadership, spiritual warfare, stewardship, and the long work of becoming a man who can be found at his post when the warning comes. Chapter 1 is the commissioning, not the campaign.

You do not need another notify-me button. You need to hear the word, warn the people God gave you, and stay on the wall.

Stand the post.

Peace,
Adam