

The coil of prayer

by [Luci Shaw](#) in the [January 22, 2014](#) issue

Count on the faith that links us  
as we pray, about odd things  
in each other's lives, nothing ruinous  
—a lost ring, an aching tooth. Even  
a request that we forget after  
a casual pledge: *I'll be sure to pray for you*,  
words spoken as we chat at the store  
—they form a filament of gold, forged  
in heaven, that loops around us.  
Even careless phrases spoken through  
air hold firm, are heard, and may  
be answered. A cough that won't  
give up, a missing check, a migraine  
that suspends us, waiting, held  
in the loop of prayer.