

Ordinary Angels - Small Group Discussion Guide

Sermon Summary

This sermon uses the film "Ordinary Angels" to explore themes of rescue, redemption, and faith. Through the story of Sharon, a struggling hairdresser who helps a widowed father and his dying daughter, we see how God uses ordinary people as instruments of extraordinary grace. The message parallels the biblical account of the bleeding woman and Jairus's daughter in [Mark 5:27-42](#), showing how Jesus rescues the broken and restores faith. Just as Sharon and others became "ordinary angels" in Michelle's life, God calls us to trust Him for our own rescue and to be agents of His love for others.

Icebreaker Question

If you could be rescued from any everyday inconvenience (like traffic jams, long grocery store lines, etc.), what would it be and why?

Discussion Questions

- 1. Sharon struggled with denial about her alcoholism before finally admitting she needed help. What makes it difficult for people to acknowledge their need for rescue, whether from addiction, brokenness, or spiritual issues? How can we create safe spaces for people to be honest about their struggles?**
- 2. The sermon mentions how the bleeding woman in [Mark 5:27-29](#) had faith that touching Jesus' robe would heal her. She approached Jesus indirectly through the crowd. What does this teach us about different ways people approach God? How can we be sensitive to those who may be hesitant to come to God directly?**
- 3. Ed's faith wavered as he watched his daughter suffer, yet God used his young daughter to help restore his faith perspective. Share about a time when your faith was challenged by difficult circumstances. How did God work to restore or strengthen your faith during that season?**
- 4. The sermon emphasizes that "God is an expert at working in the background, even while we wonder if we can trust Him." Looking back on your life, can you identify a time when you later realized God was working behind the scenes in ways you couldn't see at the time? How does this perspective help during current challenges?**
- 5. Sharon became an "ordinary angel" by using her determination and community connections to help Michelle's family. What unique gifts, resources, or connections has God given you that could be used to serve as His "ordinary angel" in someone else's life? How might God be calling you to step out in faith to help others?**

Prayer Requests

- **For those struggling with addiction or denial** - Pray for breakthrough moments of honesty and the courage to seek help, just as Sharon eventually did in the AA meeting.
- **For families facing medical crises** - Pray for strength, faith, and provision for families like Ed's who are watching loved ones suffer and fighting to maintain hope.
- **For opportunities to be "ordinary angels"** - Ask God to open our eyes to see needs around us and give us boldness to act as His instruments of love and practical help.
- **For those questioning their faith** - Pray for people who have distanced themselves from God due to disappointment or pain, that they would experience His faithful love working behind the scenes.