

Blockbuster Christmas pt 4 It's A Wonderful Life

A wonderful life is a faithful life.

The movie had a villain, but Georges greatest enemy was discouragement.

Discouragement causes us to think in extremes.

4 Sources Of Discouragement

Dreams that go unfulfilled

Proverbs 13:12

**Hope delayed makes the heart sick,
but desire fulfilled is a tree of life.**

Sacrifices that seem not to matter

Galatians 6:9–10

Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us work for the good of all, especially for those who belong to the household of faith.

Pressures that feel insurmountable

5 Bible Prescriptions For Discouragement

Prayer for strength.

Matthew 26:40–41

Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He asked Peter, “So, couldn't you stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹ Stay awake and pray, so that you won't enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Worship for perspective.

Psalms 73:13–17

**Did I purify my heart
and wash my hands in innocence for nothing?
For I am afflicted all day long
and punished every morning.
If I had decided to say these things aloud,
I would have betrayed your people.**

When I tried to understand all this,
it seemed hopeless
until I entered God's sanctuary.
Then I understood their destiny.

Friends for adversity.

Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times,
and a brother is born for a difficult time.

Testing for endurance

James 1:3-4

...you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.

A Savior for hope.

Matthew 1:21

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."