



FINDING FAITH: Small Group Bible Study inspired by the movie "Clancy"

## **INTRODUCTION**

*Clancy* (2009) centers on the redemptive relationship between two outcasts: Clancy Miller, a resilient 12-year-old runaway with an unwavering faith, and Nick Best, a jaded, homeless war veteran haunted by guilt. Their unlikely bond is threatened when they become pawns in the cynical, corrupt political scheme of the city's mayor. Despite the escalating danger that leads to a climactic confrontation, the film emphasizes how Clancy's simple, non-judgmental faith ultimately breaks through Nick's despair, offering him a path to redemption and forgiveness.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### 1. FAITH AS RESILIENCE IN SUFFERING

- How does the film portray Clancy's faith as a source of resilience and selfless love rather than a passive belief?
- Read Romans 5:3-5. This passage speaks of suffering producing perseverance and hope. How does Clancy's simple faith enable her to see beyond her difficult circumstances and act out of love for her mother and, later, for Nick?



### 2. THE POWER OF UNCONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE

- How does Clancy's unconditional acceptance of Nick serve as a reflection of God's grace, and how does it become the catalyst for Nick's redemption?
- Read Romans 2:4. This verse notes that God's kindness is intended to lead us to repentance. How does Clancy's consistent, non-judgmental kindness act as the divine "kindness" that forces Nick to confront his own despair and guilt?



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### 3. CHOOSING FORGIVENESS OVER GUILT



- Nick is haunted by his past, and his despair is momentarily shaken when Clancy is shot during the ambush. What does the film suggest is the source of the courage needed to choose the difficult path of forgiveness and redemption?

Read 1 John 1:9. This passage assures us that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive them. How does Nick's confrontation with his despair set the stage for him to accept the forgiveness offered by God, freeing him from his self-imposed guilt?

### 4. THE CORRUPTION OF WORLDLY POWER

- The film's antagonist, the corrupt mayor, cynically uses Clancy's disappearance and Nick's predicament for a political media stunt. How does the mayor's selfish, manipulative scheme contrast with the selfless love and faith shown by Clancy?

- Read Matthew 6:24. Jesus states that no one can serve two masters. How does the mayor's pursuit of political power and self-interest illustrate the spiritual danger of prioritizing worldly gain over truth and human decency?



## REFLECTION & APPLICATION

**Reflect on a person in your life who, like Clancy, showed you unconditional love that helped you through a difficult time.**

How did their non-judgmental acceptance impact you? What guilt from your past do you need to finally surrender to God to embrace the freedom of forgiveness?



## PRAYER

Close the Bible study with a time of prayer, for children facing difficult home lives and for veterans struggling with guilt and homelessness.

Pray for the courage to show unconditional love and non-judgmental acceptance to the "outcasts" in our own communities.



## CONCLUSION

Clancy is a powerful story showing that faith, even in its simplest form, can penetrate the deepest despair and guilt. The film encourages us to be instruments of God's grace, offering the forgiveness and hope that can lead even the most jaded heart to redemption.

