



FINDING FAITH: Small Group Bible Study inspired the movie by "Letters to Stephanie"

INTRODUCTION

In Letters to Stephanie, a grandmother named Anna is denied any legal claim to her granddaughter Stephanie, who is placed for adoption before Anna can do anything to stop it. Given only the chance to write a letter for Stephanie's adoption file — a letter her granddaughter may never read — Anna crafts hidden clues, fuelled by a hope that defies every human obstacle. For decades she places birthday wishes in the newspaper, prays in silence, and refuses to let love be extinguished by law or time. Based on a true story, this film speaks about the tenacity of love, the quiet faithfulness of prayer, and the sovereign God who works through sealed files and strange coincidences to bring restoration.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. HOPE SUSTAINED

- Anna and Ian separately carry the same hope for decades: that one day, by some miracle, they will see Stephanie again. Neither speaks of it to the other, yet neither abandons it. The silence is not empty, but filled with prayer. How does Anna's refusal to let hope die, even without any visible sign of progress, reflect what it truly means to trust in God's promises?

- Read Romans 8:24–25 and Hebrews 11:1. How do these passages define hope not as optimism but as a confident trust in what God has promised, even when unseen? In what area of your own life are you being called to sustain hope?



2. THE POWER OF PRAYER

- Anna's faith is not a grand public declaration. It is expressed in small, persistent acts: a letter with hidden clues, the annual birthday notice in the newspaper, a private prayer carried silently for thirty years. How does the film challenge the idea that faithful prayer must be dramatic or immediately answered to be real and powerful?

- Read Luke 18:1–8 and 1 Thessalonians 5:17. How do these passages call us to a prayer that is persistent rather than spectacular? What does Anna's decades-long faithfulness reveal about the kind of trust God deserves, and how does it challenge or encourage your own



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

4. PROVIDENCE - GOD WORKING THROUGH COINCIDENCE



- The film is laced with moments that feel too precise to be accidental and the filmmaker, Wilhelm, reflects that with God there are no coincidences. How does the film's web of unlikely connections invite us to see God's hand at work in the seemingly ordinary details of life?

- Read Proverbs 16:9 and Esther 4:14. How do these passages affirm that God directs the steps of His people even when no one can see the pattern? Where in your own life have you looked back and recognised the hand of God in something that once seemed like mere chance?

4. LOVE THAT DOES NOT LET GO

- At the heart of this film is a love that institutional indifference, unjust law, and the passage of time cannot extinguish. Anna holds her granddaughter once, writes her a letter she may never read, and then spends thirty years refusing to let that be the end of the story. How does Anna's love for Stephanie reflect the character of God's relentless love for His people?

- Read Romans 8:38–39 and Zephaniah 3:17. How do these passages describe a God whose love cannot be severed by circumstance, time, or separation? How does understanding the unconditional nature of God's love for you shape the way you love others?



REFLECTION & APPLICATION

Reflect on a relationship or a prayer you have been tempted to give up on. What would it look like to bring the same quiet, persistent faithfulness to that situation that Anna brought to hers?

Is God calling you to grow in your perseverance in prayer, your trust in God's providence, or your willingness to love without guarantee of return?



PRAYER

Close the Bible study with a time of prayer, inviting participants to bring before God the hopes they have carried for the longest time and the prayers that have not yet been answered.

Encourage each person to pray with the same persistent faith Anna modelled - trusting that God hears every word, holds every name, and works all things together in His perfect time.



CONCLUSION

We are called to a faith that does not require visible results to remain faithful. The letters Anna wrote were an act of trust that God could do what the law could not. Thirty years later, He did. Encourage one another to keep praying, keep trusting, and keep loving — knowing that nothing offered to God in faith is ever lost.