

It's a Wonderful Life



A young George Bailey, overwhelmed by family obligations and a sense of responsibility toward his community, feels tied down to a company he never had an interest in working for, and a life he never wanted to live. As he ages, he sees his youth, dreams and opportunities pass him by. Unknown to George, all of his friends and family have been praying for him to get through those hard times. Told through the point of view of a group of angels, he is met by his guardian angel Clarence, as he contemplates ending his life.

Questions: “Show me the way” is the prayer that George prays to God. Later in the movie he prays, “Save my life” King David, who was once an ordinary shepherd, knew about courage. David said, *“I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done”* ([Psalm 188:17](https://www.bible.com/verse/psalm/188/17)). Throughout his life David had faced many insurmountable circumstances. What about George’s life is he cares so little about living? Do angels really get wings? (No, but the movie is fiction— for more information: <https://www.beliefnet.com/faiths/christianity/articles/is-it-ok-for-christians-to-see-angels.aspx>)

Parent notes: This is not a movie for young children. The topic of suicide and death can be difficult. However, it is an important discussion of the life that God has called us to live. Also, that life is not always fun and roses but it is our life and we are made in His image. It also deals with the death of George’s father and his responsibility to the family, a good conversation about loyalty and family expectations.

Closing Prayer: *Thank You God for this day and this movie that we can enjoy and learn from! Put the message You want me (us) to learn and put it into our heart. May the birth of Jesus be the present and presence of this time. Amen*