

✘ Safety ✘

YOUNG PERSON FEELS SAFE AT HOME, SCHOOL, AND IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

By *Emilie Kusler*

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Emilie Kusler, to those who know her well, is considered the ultimate in coffee drinkers. A student at Augsburg College, Emilie's caffeinated life consists of ministry, music, and movies. As a social work major, and youth ministry minor, Emilie hopes to take her infectious ways of ministry and social justice into the world when she graduates. It is in her loyal friends, family, and God that Emilie finds her personal safety.

Psalm 91:9-16 ...his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.




- Looking at the pictures and stories, which one is personally most concerning?
- Tell about a time you tried to do something unsafe just for fun.
- Describe a place you feel safe. Unsafe.
- What feels safe or unsafe when you are with your family? In your neighborhood? At your school?
- What feels safe or unsafe when you consider the topics of environment? War? Crime? Justice? Health?
- How does faith affect you when you feel or are in unsafe situations?
- When does God provide safety? How?
- What are angels?
- Describe what or who the angels are in your life?
- Where do you find, or give, safety, protection and comfort?
- How do you contribute to a sense of safety for others?
- What gives you the greatest sense of hope?

So What?



Create a bookmark out of a piece of card-stock. Using the newspapers cut out key phrases and small pictures that remind you of the importance of safe environments where protection and comfort are given. Create a small collage based on the conversation.

Candle Time



Share something significant about your bookmark followed with a line of prayer for those seeking protection, and thanks for those finding angels of safety.



EXPLORE

- Job 11:18 ...you will have confidence because there is hope.
- Psalm 118:8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than...
- 1 Samuel 25 The reputation of Abigail
- 1 Samuel 16:7 ...the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on ...
- Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart...
- Phillipians 3:8 Indeed I count everything as loss because of...



Leader Page

Discussion Goal

Safety is given, and can be found all around us.

Background

Feeling safe from horrible, confusing, and unpleasant things is a human need. Individuals differ on what feels safe, provides safety and ways comfort comes. Psalm 91 speaks of God's protection, and promises the guarding of angels in all of our ways. This short, but significant verse makes us wonder what, or who, these 'angels' might be. Are angels confined to beautiful heavenly spirits with wings? Might God provide differently for each of us through unique angels? For example, family members may serve as protective angels, as do close friends and neighbors. Extracurricular activities or time spent developing talents may serve as a safety blanket becoming an individual's angel of protection. This is not to rule out God's divine intervention with spiritual forces or beings that are beyond our human understanding.

In the midst of feelings of insecurity and confusion, this discussion explores the people, the things and the faith that offer safety. The discussion encourages participants to be angels for one another.

Motivate

Lay out a variety of newspapers. Quickly find and cut or tear out stories or pictures that illustrate a need for safety and protection. Stories can range from serious to hilarious. Encourage the group to find things that represent personal, local, national and world concerns. Share the safe and unsafe situations, and the protection that is needed. Ask the group to try to rank the stories and pictures by laying them in a line in order from least severe to most severe.

Be sure to collect newspapers and magazines that contain relevant information about local, national and world concerns.

Optional Song

Song: Calling All Angels, By: Train Album: My Private Nation



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