



## *God turns the mundane into the miraculous*

### **Main Point:**

A lot of life is pretty mundane, isn't it. I mean, most of what we do: the shopping, the cleaning, catching buses or driving, eating our meals ... are all pretty boring. We often call these tasks the 'nothing special' of life.

But when we come to the story of Christmas, or even the occasion when we will baptise a new baby into the family of God – these special times all arise because God has turned a mundane activity into a miraculous one.

*"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 15:13 The Living Bible)

### **Intro |**

There is an advertisement on TV at the moment. A young lady asks, "why do we always say we're doing 'nothing special', just because it is not a special occasion?" Then she walks into scenarios we are all very familiar with ... dinner with her best pals - 'nothing special', dinner with her partner - 'nothing special', dinner her family, who she would literally die for - 'nothing special' ... Then the advert finishes with the slogan: "McCain: There is something special about nothing special."

Well I'd like to change a few words so it says:

God: He makes something special out of nothing special.

How much of your life would you call 'nothing special'.

In fact, most of what we do: the shopping, the cleaning, showering, catching buses or driving, eating our meals ... is all pretty boring. They are the 'nothing special' or 'mundane' occasions of life.

We are not surprised to learn that 'mundane' means that which is 'lacking interest or excitement, unspectacular, humdrum, boring and dull'. Interestingly, it also means something that is "of this earthly world rather than a heavenly or spiritual one."

But whether we look at the Christmas story, or why we are about to dip water over a baby's head ... God has chosen to use the simple, mundane things in this world to do profound, even miraculous things.

For example, what could be more mundane than a stable filled with farm animals feeding out of a hay trough – but yet, God turned a boring stable into the sacred birth place of his Son – now we display a nativity set to remind us of the miracle that God took on human flesh as a baby.

Or, every day we sit down at a table with our family and friends and share a meal – so mundane we do it three times a day – but yet, God used a meal to be the sacred symbol of his Son willingness to pour out his life and blood so we may partake of God's eternal life.

Very shortly we will pour water over the head of baby Isla. Why do we do this? It is the practice of something that we do all the time. All of us become dirty, we bath and wash ourselves every day (I hope!). If our hands get dirty, we wash them.

In the same way, God uses the symbol of washing away the dirt of our sin as a symbol of his forgiveness in our hearts, making us clean and pure in his sight.

Cleaning the heart is something that only God can do. No amount of water, bleach or Napisan can wash away the sin and wrongdoing that resides there.

So God took the everyday mundane practice of washing away dirt and made it into a symbol of the miraculous event of God's forgiveness.

You know, on Monday we shared the final session of The Blessing Course. We've been learning how to bless those whom we encounter. Rod Thompson shared a recent situation.

He had climbed on board a bus – a pretty mundane activity. But before long he had struck up a conversation with a lady sitting close by and was able to share his story of freedom from addiction through God's help and shared God's blessing with her. The lady left with a story and experience that she'll never forget – again a mundane event which turned into a miraculous one.

So ... if are finding your life just way too mundane — why not ask God to take these mundane moments and turn them into something miraculous.

Nothing God touches remains the same. He only needs to be asked.

Let God turn your mundane into the miraculous.

### *Advent Prayer Devotional*

In this Advent season, we'll be sharing this story together—the story of how Jesus, our Savior, came into this world to save us. Together we'll celebrate how God kept His promise: "For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).w

