

Christy - Disc One (This DVD is recorded on both sides)

For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing. Deuteronomy 10:17-18 NIV

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field." Matthew 9:35-38 NIV

The book, Christy, was written by Catherine Marshall (wife of Peter Marshall / A Man Called Peter) and based on the life her mother who was a teacher at a mission in the Smokey Mountains. Christy was raised in an affluent family but wanted more from life than "an endless round of tea parties." When Christy heard Alice Henderson speak at her church, Christy felt called to teach at the mission.

Have you ever felt God's call on your life?

When Christy reached Cutter Gap she was overwhelmed with the beauty of the mountains and the poverty of the people. She was immediately confronted with violence when the man who had been sent to meet her at the train station was shot. When the Doctor needed her help with the surgery she almost fainted.

Have there been times when you wanted to help someone but were almost overwhelmed by the situation?

Miss Alice explained to Christy that the highlander's view of God was that of a stern and punishing God. They believed that God meant their lives to be hard and filled with sorrow. Miss Alice told Christy that life would be difficult in the Gap and asked if she was strong enough for the task. Christy said she wasn't sure but she wanted her life to count for something. Miss Alice advised Christy to hold onto joy.

How do you hold onto joy when life is difficult?

Christy wondered how she could teach twelve grades in six classes a day. She wondered how she could give the children the education they needed with only five textbooks and no paper to write on. The children had trouble concentrating because they were hungry. Christy admitted to herself that she might have been looking for adventure when she first arrived, but she soon realized that God had a plan and she was right where she needed to be. What do you think God's plan is for your life?

Christy suspected that the lump on Mountie's forehead was caused by Lundy. She comforted Mountie and wondered why the child never spoke. At the O'Teale home she was puzzled when Mountie's mother said she didn't have "time to reflect on the girl's problem". She also said that her husband didn't like a lot of fussing over female children and if the Lord wanted Mountie to talk He would make her talk.

There are people today who consider females inferior to males. Do you know someone who believes that?

While Christy might have traveled to Cutter Gap to find adventure, when she arrived she found a reality that was both beautiful but also difficult and bleak. The needs of the people were far more challenging than anything she had ever encountered. She wondered if she should go home, but chose instead to stay and help in any way that God chose to use her.

Dear Lord, we thank You for Your goodness and grace in our lives. Sometimes when life gets difficult we don't know what to do. Give us Your courage and strength to face the challenges of life in Your name. Fill us with love for You and the people around us. Take away our fears and pain and resentments and fill us with Your joy and peace. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.