

The Myth of Ordinary: Why God Wants You to Embrace, not Escape, the Mundane

Author Michael Kelley Explores the Corruption of Adventure and Redefines “Boring”

Boring: Finding an Extraordinary God in an Ordinary Life

by Michael Kelley

What is it?

In *Boring: Finding an Extraordinary God in an Ordinary Life*, Christian writer and speaker Michael Kelley evaluates the problem of how we define significance and offers a new perspective on living a “boring” life. Kelley asks, “What if a life of great importance isn’t found by escaping the details but embracing them? What if God actually doesn’t want you to escape from the ordinary, but to find significance and meaning inside of it?”

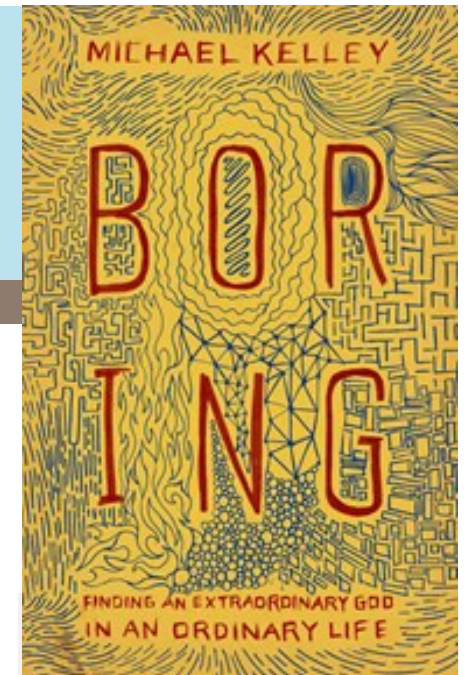
Boring lays a path for starting to see every day at work, every relationship, and every moment for what it is: a part of God’s plan. Kelley, who confesses to be a regular, “boring” guy, includes biblical truth in each chapter to show how God is present time and time again in everyday situations, and to awaken readers to the myth of “ordinary.” Because, as Kelley writes, “There is no such thing as ordinary when you follow an extraordinary God.”

Why is it relevant?

People fear being ordinary, especially in a society that believes the pathway to significance is paved with the big, the showy and the grand. People “pin” their dream lives and pine for that *something more*. But the reality is a typical day for most people doesn’t involve meeting with world leaders or climbing Mount Everest, just ordinary, boring tasks: wake up, take the kids to school, work an office job, drive home, eat dinner with the family, go to bed and repeat.

How is it different?

Boring is less a challenge and more a new set of lenses to see the greater purpose in the seemingly small and mundane details of life. For example, parents aren’t just changing diapers, they are warriors in a greater battle. Kelley’s goal is to eliminate the word “just” from readers’ vocabularies because, as he writes, when Jesus enters a situation even the most mundane things become extraordinary.



September 15, 2013

by Michael Kelley

[BOOK DETAILS](#)

B&H Publishing

Christian/Non-fiction

Paperback

978-1-4336-8135-6

224 pages

\$14.99 U.S.

PR  THE BOOK

Who is it for?

- The “Average Joes” (i.e., most people)
- Nine-to-fivers who feel stuck in their daily routine
- Stay-at-home parents struggling to find purpose in their vocation
- The “American Idol generation,” who were raised to believe that grandeur is always just within our grasp
- Graduating students seeking the next step in their journey
- Pastors and church leaders looking to help their congregation find meaning in the mundane
- Anyone who feels like they’re missing that “something more”

Who wrote it?

Michael Kelley is director of Discipleship at LifeWay Christian Resources and the author of *Wednesdays Were Pretty Normal: A Boy, Cancer, and God*. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Alabama, and lives with his wife and three kids in Nashville, Tennessee.

News tie-ins & core messages:

- The Myth of the Ordinary: Rethinking the way we pay our bills, go to work, parent our children and have daily conversations
- Beyond Boring: Learning to embrace, not escape, the details
- Finding Meaning in the Mundane: How to get out of a rut when you feel stuck in the day-to-day routine
- Fighting FOBO (Fear of Being Ordinary) as a parent, in our marriage, at work and in church, in order to live the life God intended for us
- The Consequences of Acting on FOBO: An affair or addiction to porn, a gambling debt or abandonment of family
- Dusting for Divine Fingerprints: Looking for God’s work and presence in every moment of life, from eating cereal to coaching baseball practice
- The Life of Saul: How church leaders can help their congregation see that through Jesus, every area of life is infused with meaning and purpose



“What if the ordinary details of life are actually the mechanism by which we get to see and experience God and His redemptive plan in a living and vibrant way?”

Praise for the book:

"For all of you who look at your lives and think, 'Is this all that there is?' this is your book. Read it; spend time with it; share it; read it again. God is 'in' a lot more than we realize, sovereignly 'building the city' through the most mundane of tasks (Ps. 127:1-3)."

—J.D. Greear, author, *Stop Asking Jesus Into Your Heart: How to Know for Sure You Are Saved*

"If you've lost the sense of how powerfully present God is in the ordinary, then this book was written just for you. Read this and move beyond life-as-usual to life with an extraordinary God. You'll learn that there really is no such thing as ordinary."

—Pete Wilson, pastor of Cross Point Church, author of *Plan B*

"Can passion and purpose be found in that which seems mind-numbingly mundane? In a word: yes. And when you read *Boring*, you'll see how our extraordinary God makes that possible!"

—Jen Hatmaker, author of *7: An Experimental Mutiny Against Excess*

Media Contact: Elena Meredith • 512-481-7096 • Elena@prbythebook.com

www.prbythebook.com