

The word *extraordinary* has been used many times to describe the recent rescue of 12 young soccer players and their coach from a flooded cave in Thailand. The nearly impossible mission required helping the kids, many who couldn't swim, through very narrow passageways for 2.5 miles underground—mostly underwater and in the dark. The expert cave divers who guided the boys out have been praised for their extraordinary courage and determination. While the divers used their special skills, there were hundreds of people who used their ordinary skills to support them. During the rescue operation, many citizens stepped up to do whatever they could to help make the rescue effort a success, including providing food, washing muddy clothes, and even cleaning restrooms.

Think About It . . .

- During the rescue, what were some ordinary things that happened and what were some extraordinary things?
- What makes something ordinary and what makes something extraordinary?

THE BEAT

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Lesson 8



Article and activity by Rebecca Haynes Mott

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What's Extraordinary?

Ask students to think of something they consider to be extraordinary. When preteens are ready, ask for a volunteer who is willing to be the first one questioned. The rest of the students will ask the volunteer up to five questions that can be answered either yes or no to try and discover what extraordinary thing the volunteer is thinking about. Give everyone a turn who desires one. Then SAY: **Let's dig into God's Word and find out how God used some ordinary men in extraordinary ways.**

Will you plan to let God use you?