



GOD IN FILM

STUDY GUIDES



Producer



Director



Reviewer

INSIDE OUT

Joy. Anger, Disgust. Fear.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. - Psalm 139:14

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God in Film study guides combine your two favourite things, God and movies. Upskill yourself for group discussions that explores deep themes. Learn to be the Producer, Director and Reviewer of your own film discussion group.



PRODUCER

Prep for the discussion

How can you make the most use of your time?

- Watch the movie first alone to prepare to facilitate the discussion
- Read the guide for the movie you are watching, decide what your group needs
- Have a running sheet for the way the event will run, or use our template.
- Arrange your physical or online space for group dynamics
- Pray for the group before you meet.



DIRECTOR

Keep the discussion rolling...

How can you make sure the night runs smoothly?

- As the "director", you are not the expert but the person who makes sure the night runs smoothly, not the final authority on film or God.
- Ask an opening question, to get people thinking.
- Watch the movie together all the way through to allow people to develop their own ideas
- Prepare key clips to re-watch and discuss (provided in guides). These help with engagement



REVIEWER

Help your group members become reviewers

How can you encourage your group to engage with deeper questions?

- Establish a positive culture. Affirm people's comments and encourage respectful listening from the whole group through your example.
- Don't correct ideas but listen, mirror their response and then ask for the group's opinions to keep discussion flowing
- Encourage experiential comments and opinions. When people become more analytical, try and bring it back to the person's experience of the film by asking questions. Use your pre-prepared clips to refresh their initial reactions

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Film Synopsis

It is not easy to understand children's emotions, but what if you were able to see their emotions being played out on the big screen? Directors Pete Docter (UP) and Ronaldo Del Carmen's new film *Inside Out* allows us to see into the turbulent, humorous world of the preteen emotional landscape. Riley is the focus of this sentimental tale and she is going through a multitude of changes in her life. Things get even more challenging when her family moves from Minnesota to San Francisco. As she grows older, these new situations wreak havoc on Riley and her family's emotional battlefield. Over the initial days of their arrival to their new home and school, her emotions, Joy (Amy Poehler), Fear (Bill Hader), Anger (Lewis Black), Disgust (Mindy Kaling) and Sadness (Phyllis Smith), who live in Riley's 'Headquarters', try to navigate her through the emotional minefield of the past and present. Then an emotional catastrophe leads to the mixing of her emotions, memories, and responses to life, which can lead to significant, life-changing results.



Produce

Planning List

- 1) Watch the Film, what themes can you see? What will your group connect with?
- 2) Prepare some clips to highlight these themes (suggested clips (p. 3))
- 3) Prepare a runsheet or adapt the template
- 4) Pray and prepare your space (online or physical)



Direct

Discussion Questions

1. When we are born, it seems like we are designed a certain way. We are all different, but there are things we all have in common.
2. *Inside Out* shows us joy, sorrow, disgust, anger and fear, but there are so many emotions. What value are emotions in our lives?



Review

Connecting the emotions and the actions

Good times come and go. We all respond to these events in our lives in different ways. Sometimes our actions are spot on, while there are times when we do not respond correctly. *How do you keep your emotions under control? Does everyone in your life act the same way in good and bad times? Why or why not?*

Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.

- Proverbs 16:32



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Clips

Emotions from the beginning

Humanity is wired with emotions from the beginning of life. Inside Out taps into five key emotions, but we all have more in our lives.

Who put these emotions into our minds and hearts? Does God have emotions?

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, according to Our likeness...'" (Genesis 1:26)

Rejoicing is one emotion of God (Joy) "The glory of the Lord shall endure for ever; the Lord shall rejoice in His works." (Psalm 104:31)

Letting go of the past

As people grow older, there are people and things that remain constant, while others fade away. It can be hard to let things go or to let them stay in the past. Yet, some things just disappear without us even realising they are gone. Certain events in our lives make us happy and others make us sad.

Why does letting go of the past involve so many different emotions?

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. - Matthew 5:4

Close the Curtain

Sadness and Joy work together

The conclusion draws on the 'bittersweet' nature life and how we are made.

Do you think God gets sad? Why?