



QUESTIONS FOR USE WITH ANY FILM

Each *Reel Issues* discussion gives you questions and activities tailored to a specific film. But there are lots of questions and approaches you can use with any movie. Here are some suggestions:

- 1. Start with the obvious: what did the group think of the film? What did they like most or least?
- 2. Which incidents made people think or feel most strongly? Invite group members to say more about these and how they feel about the way the film treated them.
- 3. What issues did the film raise for people? It is best for the group to discover these together. They may identify issues you overlooked. Everyone will have something different to contribute.
- 4. Ask which character(s) people most identified with and why. This can be a helpful way for people to express something of their own experience from a 'safe distance'.
- 5. Ask if the film rings any bells with Christian beliefs/stories from the Bible. Does it support or challenge Christian values, so far as the group is aware? How does the Bible tackle these issues? How do group members respond to Christian approaches to these situations? This is a way of opening up dialogue with the Bible, but be sensitive to the extent or limits of your group's knowledge and steer clear of religious jargon.

- 6. If the director takes a distinctive approach to filming or telling the story, what does the film gain from being made in this way? Were there visual clues or audio clues (music or a lyric) at certain points designed to influence how you interpreted or felt about the story?
- 7. Would group members like to have told the story differently. If so, how?
- 8. How believable was the story? Was this important or was it believable within the convention of films like this?

Authors: Lindsay Shaw and Ian Maher

© Bible Society 2010