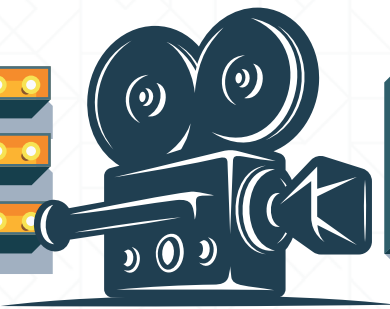


2017 SUMMER

MOVIE NIGHT



MINISTRY GUIDE

LIGHTS ... CAMERA ... OUTREACH!

Movie nights are an easy and fun way to invite your community to get to know your church. Many people are reluctant to try out a new church for the first time during Sunday services. Hosting events like movie nights give visitors a no-pressure way to meet your members and your ministry team — which makes them far more open to visiting in the future.

This summer, why not use the power of film to open hearts to the Gospel? We've got tips and ideas to make your church movie night a complete success — one you can repeat all summer long!



Facing Darkness

This incredible true story shows how God performed a miracle when a Christian relief organization helps fighting the Ebola epidemic in west Africa, only to have one of their own infected.

Learn More:

www.outreach.com/films

WHY HOST A CHURCH MOVIE NIGHT?

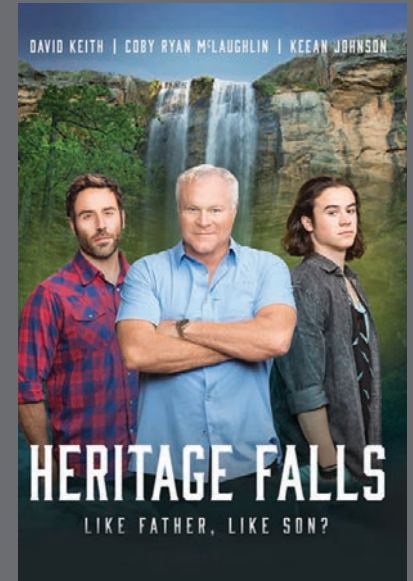
A Church Movie Night Connects People through the Power of Story

Why does film overcome obstacles in a way that other events can't? The answer is simple. Storytelling. Storytelling is one of the most powerful tools we have today for reaching our communities. More than a collection of words or a parade of sentences, a story communicates beyond the head and finds home in the heart. A story connects us to a truth that is inescapable, an emotion that is undeniable and an experience that is unforgettable.

Movies Transcend All Cultural, Educational and Economic Barriers

Before film, or even the written word, lessons of life, faith and morality were passed from generation to generation through exciting, inspiring stories. They were, and still are, a universal teaching tool! Jesus Christ taught his followers through parables because He understood that storytelling can engage people of every walk of life, at every level of education, income, or age. Today, that same storytelling is accomplished through movies. Through film, complex ideas can be broken down into understandable messages that inspire “a-ha!” moments for the viewer as they relate the stories on screen to challenges in their own lives. In short, films are modern day parables that are applicable to—and accessible by—everyone.

Excerpted “[Why Host a Church Movie Night](#)”



Heritage Falls

Three generations of totally opposite men try to put aside their long-standing differences while on a weekend retreat and discover how similar they really are and what family really means.

Learn More:

www.outreach.com/films

HOW TO HOST A SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT:

1. PICK A DATE & A MOVIE

Choose a night that works with your church schedule. Make sure it's a time when staff and volunteers will be available to help. Once you've set the date (or dates), visit find a title that's just right for your event. Light-hearted, family-friendly films will generate more interest, as will major blockbusters.

2. PURCHASE A MOVIE LICENSE

If you're showing a film in your church, you are required by law to purchase a movie license. Many licenses allow your church unlimited showings for a full year and let you use the title and images in your Summer Movie Nights promotions. Through Outreach, each license also includes discussion questions and ready-to-customize promotional resources for print and online use.

3. PLAN IT

The better you plan ahead, the more fun everyone will have. Not only that, you'll develop a seasoned system you can repeat every time you host a movie night. Key areas to focus on include choosing a film, requesting volunteers, ensuring seating, getting the proper screening equipment, and arranging for food and drinks.

4. PROMOTE

Use the promotional tools provided with your movie license, order invitations online or create your own. Give church members copies of flyers, bulletin inserts, and tickets to share with their friends. Ask local businesses to post a copy on their community bulletin boards. Or, visit homes in a six-block radius of your church and hand out invitations. Don't forget to post it on your web or social media sites!

5. HAVE FUN!

A movie night is an easy church event for for you and your volunteers. It's also super fun for guests and members, so be sure to enjoy it!



I'm Not Ashamed

Based on the inspiring and powerful true story and journal entries of Rachel Joy Scott- the first student killed in the Columbine high school shooting in 1999.

Learn More:

www.outreach.com/films

NEXT STEPS

A summer movie night is an opportunity to get to know your neighbors. Introduce yourself and be friendly, but don't be too pushy. This is supposed to be a low-key introduction! However, you can still invite people to get to know more about your church. Here are a few ideas that might help:

TELL PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR NEXT EVENT

Got another movie night coming up? Planning a vacation Bible school or day camp? How about a community service project? Make sure you have posters up and a few handouts to share.

START AN E-MAIL SIGN UP LIST

Create a sign-up list for email reminders about events and special services. Tell them about your Memorial Day service or your Fourth of July picnic. Just remember, your email needs to offer information that's helpful and important to your guest. If it becomes another sales pitch, people will delete it.

HIGHLIGHT YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

If your church posts daily inspirational quotes or scriptures, tell people about it. People are always looking for encouragement and social media has become the place to share. Again, posters and handouts with your info are a great way to connect. You should always consider social media as part of your mission field!

GIVE THEM A CARD WITH CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

People need tangible reminders. Put together a card with phone numbers, email, social media sites, and service times. Hand it out and tell guests that they're always welcome to get in touch.

INVITE THEM TO SUNDAY SERVICES

This part can be tricky. Share with your guests that you have upcoming services and let them know they are welcome to come back anytime. Don't push too hard, you want them to feel at ease, not pressured.



The Case For Christ

Investigative journalist and self-proclaimed atheist, Lee Strobel, sets out to disprove the existence of God after his wife becomes a Christian only to find his whole world is changed.

Learn More:

www.outreach.com/films

PLAN MOVIE NIGHTS FOR DIFFERENT GROUPS

Some films have broader topics that appeal to everyone in the church. Other titles, however, may work better for specific groups.

YOUTH GROUPS

Growing up is tough! Show films that deal with the issues teens face in their day-to-day lives. Look for movies that deal with bullying, peer pressure, faith or social justice issues. After the movie, ask teens to share their thoughts in an open discussion. Films are a great opportunity to provide younger audiences with information on how God's word applies to their daily lives.

SINGLES/YOUNG ADULTS

Help make your church a place the singles and young adults feel comfortable and welcome. Choose films that deal with relationships: friendship, family, co-workers, God. Show this group how our relationships shape our future.

COUPLES

The right movie can soften hearts and remind couples to cherish their relationship. It also gives them a fun (or supportive) night out where they can bond. If you've planned a couples date night movie, give each couple a simple handout or resource that reinforces the movie theme.

SMALL GROUPS

Consider using films in your small groups. Use them to reinforce topics discussed or as a supplement to readings and scripture. Many films come with study guides and church kits to help expand on the content.



The Shack

Based on the best-selling novel, a grieving man receives a mysterious invitation to meet God at “The Shack” and learns about forgiveness and love.

Learn More:

www.outreach.com/films

BONUS PROMOTIONAL IDEAS

Take your Summer Movie Night up a notch! Create a celebration that everyone can enjoy by adding in some extra fun:

ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET

Make it a night to remember, Hollywood style! Set up a photo booth at your summer movie night and let your guests take fun photos and share them on your church website for downloading. (Plus, it gets them to visit your church website!)

OUTDOOR OR DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

Have your guest bring lawn chairs, picnic blankets, and snacks and set up your movie with an outdoor projector. Use your lawn or parking lot and project your movie on a large wall or inflatable screen. Hand out glow sticks and necklaces to the kids.

TAKE IT TO THE THEATER

Got a large crowd? Why not rent one of the smaller rooms at your local theater? You'll get the real theater experience, but have the cool bonus of knowing everyone in the room. Plus, you can find out about deals on concessions for your full-house.

GIVE AWAY PRIZES

Talk with a local restaurant or coffee shops and ask them to donate a gift card you can use in a drawing. Or, create giveaway gift baskets by asking families to bring in a \$5 item with a certain theme: movies, candy, candles, bath products, art supplies, etc.

MINI MOVIE FESTIVAL

Host a movie night for local filmmakers and invite the community. Preview the films to make sure they're appropriate for a church setting. A mini-festival can truly become an outreach experience! Not only will it open your doors to the arts community, you'll also send the message that the church encourages the arts as a legitimate way of worship.

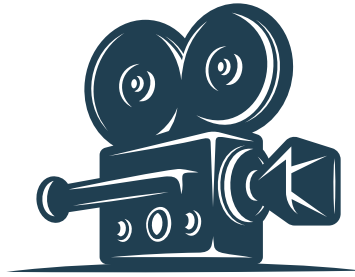


Victor

Set in the early 1960s, Victor tells the story of an immigrant family whose teen son is enslaved by gangs and drugs - they turn to faith in hopes of saving him.

Learn More:

www.outreach.com/films



HOST A SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT
CAMPAIGN AND **REACH YOUR
COMMUNITY** THROUGH
THE POWER OF FILM.

Visit OutreachFilms.com and find a movie that works for you. For additional ideas, contact an Outreach specialist at 800-991-6011 or online at Outreach.com.



Priceless

A down-on-his-luck truck driver inadvertently becomes involved in a dangerous human trafficking ring and risks it all to shut it down and save the woman he loves

Learn More:

www.outreach.com/films