

FAMILY FILM DEVOTIONAL GUIDE TO THE FILM

The PRINTING



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1.800.845.5731
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In *The Printing*, characters suffer extreme hardships that come as a result of following Christ. They live in a country where they do not have the same freedoms as Americans. This devotional time highlights the Christian life and the consequences of persecution for whole-hearted devotion to Jesus Christ in such a country. Throughout this discussion, please keep in mind without Christ, courage, fighting for a cause, endurance, and ultimate victory lose their full meaning. It is the work of Christ, not man's actions, which is in focus here.

1 What's at Stake: The Bible

Can you imagine your walk with God without the Bible? Believers in the Soviet Union during communist rule were forced to deal with this situation. Briefly discuss the role of the following in helping to make the Word of God available. Meditate prayerfully if you would respond with the same obedience if God called you to such service:

Yakov Mikhailev

Galina Mikhailev

Stepan Mikhailev

Dmitri Yurchenko

Aleksandr Yurchenko

Reflection: How important is the Bible in your life? What makes the Bible so valuable to Christians? Would you do whatever it took to preserve Word of God? Look up and discuss the following verses: Matt. 5:18, 24:35, Rom. 15:4; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 2:9, 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20, 21.

If you are not reading your Bible regularly, ask the Lord to help you desire His Word more and more.

BREAK IT UP

We recommend looking over the guide and watching the film as a family the first night. Then take one section of this guide for each consecutive night for your family devotions. This will be more enriching than discussing the entire guide on one evening. Remember to plan another family movie night sometime during the year to refresh your memory of what you've learned!

2 Count the Costs

The dedicated Christians in the film recognize they could lose everything they own and the relationships with loved ones in order to carry out God's desires. Following the Lord whole-heartedly can involve risking everything. *The Printing* accurately brings to life this harsh reality for us to meditate and reflect upon. Describe what each of these characters risked in order to serve the Lord. Discuss how they lived out their commitment and what they ended up losing as a result of their sacrifice:

Dmitri Yurchenko

Stepan Mikhailev

Galina & Yakov Mikhailev

Aleksandr Yurchenko

Sergei & Luba

Reflection: Every Christian must count the cost when deciding whether to serve the Lord. In countries where there is heavy religious persecution, counting the costs of discipleship is a more serious matter than in those with more freedom. Have you fully prepared yourself spiritually and mentally in the event your religious freedoms drastically change? Look up and discuss the following section of Scripture: Lk. 14:26-35.

Ask the Lord to grant you the character and the courage to make decisions that will please Him, even when those decisions may require you risk everything.

3 Requirements

Courage

Courage does not mean the absence of fear; rather, it means making the choice to respond rightly in light of fear. Describe how these characters served the Lord courageously:

Dmitri Yurchenko

Stepan Mikhailev

Galina Mikhailev

Yakov Mikhailev

Aleksandr Yurchenko

Conviction

Dmitri's strong convictions are the best example of the requirement to show courage. It is important to have the right convictions, but it is more important to act upon them. In one of the scenes where he debates with his father, Dmitri declares, "It's not your beliefs that bother me; it's what you do and don't do." Discuss the different times where Dmitri disagrees with his father, Aleksandr. Can you tell where Aleksandr compromises his faith? Find some verses that Aleksandr needed to heed. Do your actions match up with what you claim to believe?

**While father and son disagree in the film, we must remember that the Bible calls us always to honor our parents. Wisdom and proper respect is needed when disagreements of religious convictions arise.

Trust

In order to serve in a community of faith, trust must be established among fellow Christian believers. Describe how trust is established between these characters:

Dmitri <-----> Aleksandr

Dmitri <-----> Galina

Dmitri <-----> Stepan

Do you trust those with whom you serve? Do you distrust a fellow believer or even one of your pastors? If trust has been broken, pray for strength in taking the steps to proper Biblical confrontation, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Look up and discuss the following verses pertaining to these areas: Matt. 10:28, 31; Jn. 16:33; Rom. 8:15; 2 Cor. 5:6, 7:1; 1 Pet. 2:17, 3:14; 1 Thess. 1:5; Jn. 17:23; Eph. 4:3.

4 Consequences

Prison

Early in the film Yakov Mikhailev is in a “hospital” where he is tortured for maintaining his religious convictions. Can you recall who else faced prison and work camps at the end of the movie? Have you thought about the potential possibility of being faced with the decision of freedom vs. faith? Pray for steadfastness of faith despite severe consequences.

Martyrdom

Stepan is the only character killed in the movie. Describe how this scene affected you. Discuss the lives and stories of real-life martyrs of the faith that have touched your life.

Look up and discuss the following verses pertaining to these areas: 2 Cor. 6:4, 11:27; Col. 4:3; Phil. 1:7, 14; 2 Tim. 2:3, 9, 4:5.

Suggested Resources Available From BJU Press® & JourneyForth®

Persecution

Children of the Storm

Flame in the Wind (DVD)

History of the English Bible

Morningstar of the Reformation

Hawk That Dare Not Hunt by Day

Audio

The Printing - Motion Picture Soundtrack - on Cassette.

For more information about these titles as well as other helpful resources, please visit us online at www.bjupress.com or call us at **1.800.845.5731**.