

FAMILY FILM DEVOTIONAL GUIDE TO THE FILM

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Distributed by ShowForth DVDs
Greenville, SC 29614
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showforth.bjupress.com

produced by



UNUSUAL FILMS



1 Conversion

In *Sheffey*, we see God draw many people to Himself. Can you describe the ways God drew each of the following people to Himself? Whom did God use to draw them? Describe how we see each life change after conversion. Some indicators are more subtle than others in the film; see if you can pick them out.

Robert Sheffey

Aunt Elizabeth

The Moonshiner

Mr. Beamer (The Drunk)

Lady Nic

Reflection: Have you come to know the Lord as your Savior? If so, share your conversion experience. How has your life changed?

If you are still wondering about how to receive Christ, consider the following verses: Rom. 3:23; Rom. 6:23; Rom. 10:9; Rom. 10:13.

Notice that in the film each convert was saved as a result of another person's sharing Christ with him or her. Consider the following verses: John 6:44; Rom. 10:13,14. Discuss.

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 Forgiveness

Forgiveness is an important lesson to learn in life. Jesus commanded us to forgive others. We see several examples of forgiveness in this film. Describe how forgiveness took place in each of the following relationships. What was involved? What were the offenses? What were the obstacles to forgiveness?

Robert Sheffey and Aunt Elizabeth

The Moonshiner and Brother Frazier

Robert Sheffey and Paul

Reflection: What role has forgiveness played in your life? Have you had to forgive someone? Have you needed to be forgiven? Consider the following verses: Matt. 6:14,15; Matt. 18:21,22; Mark 11:25; Luke 17:4

3 Personal Sacrifice

Personal sacrifice isn't a quality that we naturally possess at birth. It is a quality we all need to cultivate. There is no greater example of sacrificial love than Jesus Christ. All His followers need to live a life of sacrifice. The following are examples of sacrifice that Sheffey made in the film. Discuss how these sections affected you. Do you think these were easy sacrifices for Sheffey to make? What would you have done in these situations?

His own socks for another in winter

His own horse, Gideon

Time with his own wife and son

Reflection: Discuss times in your life when you made difficult sacrifices. How did you feel when faced with having to make them? How did you feel after you made them? Discuss the following verses: Matt. 5:42; Rom. 12:1; Eph. 5:2

4 Prayer

Christians recognize the importance of prayer, but for many of us, prayer seems a “chore” that we feel we need to do. Sheffey, on the other hand, demonstrated a great desire to pray constantly. Consider the following events that occurred in his life as a result of prayer. Discuss how Sheffey prayed for these things. Can you think of other instances in the film where Sheffey prayed fervently?

Destroy the still!

Mountainside prayers

Archibald Tilton, a great preacher!

During the camp meetings with his sheepskin

Reflection: How often do you pray? Do you feel a burden to pray? Can you think of ways to improve how and when you pray? Consider the following verses: Luke 6:28; Matt. 21:22; Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6; 1 Thes. 5:17

5 Perseverance

Ever feel like giving up? What does it take to keep going? Sheffey is an admirable example of persevering through many hardships in life. Consider the following challenges to Sheffey’s life and ministry. For each, elaborate on the various obstacles and hardships he met along the way; then describe how Sheffey overcame those hardships.

Evangelism

Illness

Ridicule and criticism

Fear and self-doubt

Camp Meetings

Separation from error and liberalism

Reflection: How can we grow in perseverance? Can you think of times when you had to persevere through an extreme difficulty? Consider and discuss the following verses: Rom. 2:7; Rom. 5:3,4; Rom. 8:25; 1 Tim. 6:11

Suggested Resources Available From BJU Press® & JourneyForth®

Biographical

The Mantle of the Mountain Man

Sawdust Trail Preacher

These Are My People

Christian Living

Power to Serve

Working With God Through Prayer

Witnessing For Christ

Audio

Sheffey Soundtrack (CD)

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**.