

Why Film Club?



Watching films is a great way to explore the discipleship journey

The Methodist Church is committed to deepening the discipleship of all who walk with God and all who seek to walk with God.

Whatever is going on in our life, can be our discipleship journey. Sometimes we need a hand to ask the 'where is God in all of this' question.

Film Club is a good place to start asking 'where is God in my life?' and 'is the path of discipleship I am on, the one God wants me on?'

Film Club is part of the EDEV initiative— a boost of money into Districts to provide practical resources, to deepen the discipleship and extend the vocation of all people in a Methodist community.

Watching films then exploring questions with others is a great way to explore discipleship and extend vocation.

Distribution company Warner Bros. Therefore you need to have a license to show this film from FilmBank .

Summary of regulations and advice:

Film Bank

Film Bank list the producers CCLI don't, but don't cover the ones they do, and they are not as geared up for Churches. They don't licence film clips for example. This company cover Warner Bros and Sony.

Public Video Screening licence (PVSL) costs £95.18 for churches with up to 249 people attending the film. The licence runs from 1st May to 30th April and is a flat rate whatever time of year you apply.

- The licence can only be taken out for a full year
- All films must be shown free of charge
- The films may only be shown within the licensed premises
- The films may only be shown to the licensed group
- There should be no advertising or promotion of the film screening outside of the licensed premise and to no other than the licensed group
- No outdoor screenings are permitted
- Quarterly reports are to be submitted every 3 months from the start of the licence term listing all films screened. In other words, you tell them which films you have used.

Single screening license is £79 for up to 200 people watching.

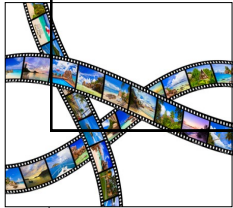
Full information and regulations to be found at www.filmbank.co.uk

EDEV FILM CLUB The Mission



Running time: 2 hours
Distributed by Warner Bros

Summary: In the 1750's, the Guarani community live above the perilous Iguazu Falls. Father Gabriel establishes a Christian Mission. He is joined by a man racked with guilt after killing his brother. Christianity makes a great impact on the Guarani, but the Cardinal is more concerned about political pressures.



Discipleship journey:

Father Gabriel, Rodrigo Mendoza and Cardinal Altamirano are all influenced by the Jesuit organisation. But their experiences prior to the events shown in this film are very different. Their previous history shapes their view of the "right" thing to do.

- Do you feel your past experience has made you likely to adopt a particular path of discipleship? Do you expect to find Christians with a different background opposing you?

Rodrigo Mendoza drags his heavy "penance" burden behind him as he goes to meet the Guarani people.

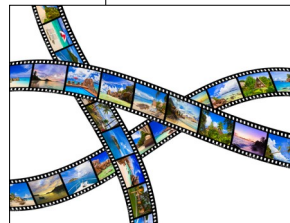
- Are we reluctant to leave our past behind? Slow to accept God's forgiveness? Does our inability to accept forgiveness and a fresh start get in the way as we try to do what God is calling us to do?

Discernment:

Gabriel is convinced the Church should stand peacefully alongside the Guarani people and refuses his blessing to Rodrigo. Rodrigo seeks in his Christian service a way back after killing his brother - but cannot believe it is right to let the colonial oppressors have free rein. Altamirano wishes to ensure that the Church retains its influence in the political arena - and suggests that the closure of the mission is in accordance with God's will.

- In what ways do you see the characters in the film trying to discern the will of God for them?

- Do you feel that in this film sometimes a genuine call from God is heard, whilst at other times the main characters are mistaken? What criteria do you use to make such judgements?



- In what ways is the Church helpful in enabling the characters to discern their calling, and in what ways is the Church unhelpful? How about your own experience of looking for God's purpose for you, and the support given by the Church in your search? Is anything going wrong - and if so, how could we help put it right?

Sacrifice:

Father Gabriel is prepared to die rather than collude with the injustice inflicted on the Guarani people.

- Do you think it is sensible to take a sense of calling to such lengths? Or do we need to compromise because "the world is thus"?

- Sacrifice is an unpopular concept in our times, yet discipleship has always involved an element of cost. What sacrifices do we expect of our leaders today? Which evils do we wish they would stand more strongly against? How do we support them when they are prepared to meet our expectations?

- The film attempts to end on a positive note, and the cross features both at the beginning and end of the film. Did you find this encouraging, or not? Do the obvious echoes of Jesus' death strike a chord with you? Do you see situations in your own life where you feel you need to be the one who carries the cross in front of both supporters and opponents?

