

FAMILY FILM DEVOTIONAL GUIDE TO THE FILM

THE TREASURE MAP

Distributed by ShowForth DVDs
Greenville, SC 29614
1.800.845.5731
showforth.bjupress.com

produced by



UNUSUAL FILMS



1 Friendships

The gang in *The Treasure Map* is a tightly-knit group of friends. They spend a lot of time together and have fun adventures. More importantly, they are able to attend Sunday school and church together. During one Sunday school class, Nathan's friends help point out to him that Edward needs help. Discuss the various moments in the film when Nathan's friends encourage Nathan to do the right thing. Describe how they communicate to him. Also describe the various ways Nathan responds throughout the course of the film.

Reflection: Discuss how selfish attitudes can hinder our relationships with others. How did Nathan's selfishness affect his relationship with Edward, his friends, and his parents?

Do you encourage your friends to be obedient to the desires of God? Discuss ways in which you can be an encouragement to those in your church or school.

What do you think are some obstacles to being the kind of friend the Lord wants you to be? What are some ways to overcome those obstacles?

Consider the following verses: Prov. 17:17; 18:24; 25:23; 27:6; 27:9; John 13:34-35; Phil. 2:3-7.

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 Repentance

The Treasure Map portrays beautifully what happens when one repents of bad attitudes and beliefs and acknowledges the truths of God. Repentance can involve these four aspects: (1) recognition; (2) acknowledgement; (3) change of attitude; and (4) action toward life change. Nathan demonstrates these aspects most clearly, but they can also be seen in the roles of the other characters. Describe and discuss how the following demonstrate these aspects of repentance. Be specific.

Nathan

Edward

Wildcat (Edward's Grandpa)

Reflection: How would you describe true repentance? Have you known and witnessed someone whose life has changed because of repentance? Discuss how it affected you.

Discuss times in your life when you've truly repented. How was your life changed as a result? If there is anything in your life currently that you sense the Lord is leading you to repent over, ask now for God's mercy and forgiveness as well as the courage to change.

If you have not repented over your sins and have not asked for Jesus to save you, you can do that at any time. Consider the following verses: Matt. 3:2; Mk. 1:15; Acts 3:19; Rom. 10:13; 2 Cor. 7:10.

3 Testimony

Being a good testimony means representing Christ and His work in our lives—magnifying God's goodness and glory to the world so that others will come to Him. Nathan, as a Christian, understands the importance of being a good testimony, but he quickly forgets when he meets Edward. Discuss the ways in which Nathan damages his testimony, both to Edward and to his other friends. For example, one thing Nathan says to Edward is, "I hate Indians!" What else can you think of from the film?

Reflection: How effective is your current testimony at school or at work? How could you improve your testimony? Ask God to give you wisdom and strength to be a good witness to non-believers. What should you do about the times you have demonstrated a poor testimony?

Even though a Christian may damage his or her testimony through poor actions, it is still possible to bring glory to God by recognizing wrongs and asking for forgiveness. Discuss the dialogue between Nathan and Edward when they settle their differences and become friends. What thoughts came to mind as you watched the scene?

Consider the following verses: Matt. 5:13-16; 1 Cor. 1:4-8; Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:17.

4 Stereotypes

The Treasure Map addresses an important issue which is prevalent in all areas of our society. Judging someone on the basis of his culture, nationality, or skin color is unwise, unloving, and ungodly. Edward shows deep frustration for those who have ridiculed him and have not accepted him throughout his life. Discuss the different ways Edward is treated negatively because of his Native American background. How do Nathan and the others treat him at first? How did this affect you?

Consider the Sunday school scene. The teacher uses Acts 23 to point out that God is sovereign and controls circumstances to accomplish His will. Read Acts 23, and discuss your thoughts on this.

Describe and discuss Nathan's question to the Sunday school teacher concerning people who are different. What was the teacher's response, and how did it affect you? Did any other thoughts come to your mind that you would add to the teacher's answer to Nathan?

Reflection: Do you allow stereotypes to influence how you view others? Are there certain people in your life currently that come to mind concerning this issue? Discuss ways in which you can think and act biblically to become more loving and accepting toward those who are different than you.

Consider the following verses: Mk. 12:28-31; Eph. 2:19-22; Gal. 3:28; 1 Tim. 2:1-6.

Suggested Resources Available From BJU Press® & JourneyForth®

Captive Treasure

The Treasure of Pelican Cove

The Choctaw Code

Trouble at Silver Pines Inn

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**.