

[church/study group name here]

**LENTEN FILM JOURNEY**

*“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” — Psalm 51*

Lent invites us to see more clearly — ourselves, our neighbors, and God’s work in the world. These films encourage reflection on compassion, forgiveness, loss, hope, and transformation. Use the question with each film for prayer, journaling, or group conversation.

**Suggested practice:**

- Begin with the opening prayer.
- Watch the film prayerfully.
- Sit in silence for a few minutes afterward.
- Reflect on the question alone or in conversation.

**Opening Prayer**

God of mercy, open our eyes to see, our hearts to feel, and our spirits to be changed by love and truth. Teach us through this story, and draw us closer to you and to one another. Amen.

Wednesday, February 18	About Time (2013)	What would it mean to fully live this ordinary day as a gift?
Thursday, February 19	Groundhog Day (1993)	What small acts of kindness could transform my daily routines?
Friday, February 20	Soul (2020)	Am I postponing joy while searching for purpose?
Saturday, February 21	Pleasantville (1998)	What fears arise when life becomes more honest and Complex?
Sunday, February 22	Good Will Hunting (1997)	What truth about myself do I resist hearing with compassion?
Monday, February 23	Dead Poets Society (1989)	Where am I being called to live more authentically?
Tuesday, February 24	Into the Wild (2007)	What is the difference between solitude and isolation in my life?
Wednesday, February 25	The Matrix (1999)	What Illusions need to be confronted in my life?
Thursday, February 26	Last Holiday (2006)	What do I want to do before I die? Why haven't I?
Friday, February 27	Samsara (2012)	What did you notice? What image has stayed with you?
Saturday, February 28	To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar	How can kindness dismantle fear of difference? (1995)
Sunday, March 1	Planes, Trains and Automobiles (1987)	How quickly do I judge others before knowing their story?
Monday, March 2	The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (1994)	How do we create belonging for those on the margins?
Tuesday, March 3	Hidden Figures (2016)	Whose gifts might I be overlooking?
Wednesday, March 4	To Kill a Mockingbird (1962)	Whose perspective do I need to understand more deeply?
Thursday, March 5	The Elephant Man (1982)	How do I recognize dignity when society overlooks it?
Friday, March 6	City of Joy (1992)	How does encountering suffering change my sense of shared humanity?
Saturday, March 7	Blazing Saddles (1974)	How can humor expose prejudice and invite humility?
Sunday, March 8	Departures (2008)	How does facing death teach me how to honor life?
Monday, March 9	Life of Pi (2012)	How do stories help me find meaning in suffering?

Tuesday, March 10	Meet Joe Black (1998)	How does mortality reshape how I love?
Wednesday, March 11	The Green Mile (1999)	How do I respond to innocence confronted by injustice?
Thursday, March 12	Hamnet (2026)	How does grief change the way we love and create?
Friday, March 13	Chocolat (2000)	In what ways can hospitality and openness to difference transform fear, judgment, or division in a community?
Saturday, March 14	The Mission (1986)	Where am I being asked to choose mercy over power?
Sunday, March 15	Dead Man Walking (1995)	What does forgiveness demand of us?
Monday, March 16	The Shawshank Redemption (1994)	Where do I need to choose hope when it seems irrational?
Tuesday, March 17	The Shack (2017)	What does reconciliation with God and others look like?
Wednesday, March 18	The Bridge of San Luis Rey	Can love itself be the meaning we seek in tragedy?(2004)
Thursday, March 19	The Way (2010)	What am I carrying that I need to lay down on my journey?
Friday, March 20	The Road Home (1999)	How do love and memory shape my faithfulness?
Saturday, March 21	Leap of Faith (1992)	Where am I being invited to trust beyond certainty?
Sunday, March 22	Cloud Atlas (2012)	How do my choices ripple into the lives of others?
Monday, March 23	Lars and the Real Girl (2007)	How does patience and gentle understanding help someone who is isolated or misunderstood feel seen and loved?
Tuesday, March 24	Coco (2017)	How do memories and forgiveness heal generations?
Wednesday, March 25	Up (2009)	How do I move forward while honoring loss?
Thursday, March 26	A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (2019)	Who needs the gift of your gentle attention?
Friday, March 27	Saving Mr. Banks (2013)	What part of my story still longs for healing?
Saturday, March 28	The Princess Bride (1987)	How does love endure suffering and absurdity?
Sunday, March 29	Casablanca (1942)	When does love require sacrifice for the greater good?
Monday, March 30	The Spitfire Grill (1996)	How can hospitality become healing?
Tuesday, March 31	Little Miss Sunshine (2006)	How can acceptance transform family relationships?
Wednesday, April 1	Wake Up Dead Man (2025)	If you could “solve the puzzle” of a person’s life story, what hidden truths or unseen struggles might change how you judge or care for them?
Tuesday, April 2	All Saints (2017)	How does faith guide us to take risks and serve others, even when the outcome is uncertain?
Wednesday, April 3	Resurrection (1980)	What wounds in me might become sources of compassion for others?
Thursday, April 4	What dreams may come (1998)	How does love continue to call us toward healing and hope, even through grief, loss, and suffering?
Friday, April 5	Atonement (2007)	How do apology and truth relate to redemption?
Saturday, April 6	Godspell (1973)	What does joyful discipleship look like today?
Sunday, April 7	Babette’s Feast (1987)	How does generosity become a sacrament of grace?
SUBSTITUTE	Wonder (2017)	What does it mean to choose kindness when it costs me something?

### Closing Prayer

Loving God, thank you for what we have seen and felt. Help us carry forward what is true, practice what is compassionate, and live with greater empathy and hope; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTE: You do not need to watch every film. Choose what fits your schedule and emotional capacity. Allow time for reflection including prayer, confession and envisioning hope. Feel free to share insights respectfully with others who are also doing the series. Listen for the movement of Holy Spirit in one another.