

# CINEMA OUTREACH

## EVANGELISM GUIDE — THE VAULT

### In This Guide:

- Tips for Hosting a Movie Event
- Movie Event Sample Invitations
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- Simple Steps to Leading Someone to Faith in Jesus
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### TIPS FOR HOSTING A MOVIE EVENT

#### Movie Event Group Size:

If you will be having a large group of people attending the *Movie Event*, we advise that you plan to divide into smaller groups for discussion after watching the movie in order to have more personal and effective conversations.

You could also hold *Movie Events* several times, inviting smaller groups of different people each time. For smaller groups, we recommend selecting groups of people that you think will get along, enabling you to focus on creating closer relationships with them, and hopefully with each other too. An ideal small group size is between 5 and 10 people.

#### Movie Event Location Ideas:

Depending on the amount of people who will be attending your movie night, it could simply be held in your home (either indoor or outdoor on the side of a building) or it could be held in a venue that would hold more people, such as a community hall, a church, or even a local movie theater. If there would be rental fees, consider inviting other groups to join with you in hosting the Movie Event and sharing the costs. You could even have a meal before showing the movie, where everyone brings something to share.



## Getting Ready for your Movie Event:

- **1-2 weeks ahead of your *Movie Event*:**

- Think about **who you want to invite**. Send a direct message or email to each person you're inviting. *(See "Movie Event Sample Invitations" below.)*
- Think about **what time your *Movie Event* should take place**. Start the event early enough to allow enough time afterwards for a meaningful conversation regarding the deeper spiritual ideas found in the story. Plan to have 30-60 minutes of discussion time after the movie is shown.
- Plan what **food and drinks** you'll be serving at the *Movie Event*, which will make the event feel like a celebration and show that you value this special time together. (You may want to ask some of your guests to bring food or drinks. Sometimes this can help people to show up since they know you're depending on them to bring something.)
- To **prepare for your discussion** after watching the movie together, we've created several helpful resources for you.
  - Discussion Questions in each Movie's Redemptive Analogy
  - How to Lead Someone to Faith in Jesus

- **3-4 days ahead of your *Movie Event*:**

Send a direct message or email reminder to each person you're inviting.  
*(See "Movie Event Sample Invitations" below.)*

- Prepare for your event by deciding if you'll stream the movie, rent it, or use a DVD.
- If you haven't already, plan the refreshments you'll be serving.

- **The day of the *Movie Event*:**

- Be sure to do a practice test playing the movie to check that the speakers and picture plays correctly beforehand.
- Send a direct message or email reminder to each guest you've invited.  
*(See "Movie Event Sample Invitations" below.)*
- Make sure to give yourself at least an hour to set up food, drinks and the viewing location before the guests arrive so you're not busy with that as people are arriving. Be sure that you have enough seating for everyone.

## MOVIE EVENT SAMPLE INVITATIONS

### Ready to host a Movie Event? Now it's time to invite people!

Inviting people to your *Movie Event* is so easy! We've provided some pre-scripted invitation suggestions below. All you have to do is copy and paste them into a text or email, filling in the specific time and date details for your *Movie Event*! We recommend that you write each person to invite them personally.

Use this first template **1-2 weeks before** your *Movie Event*:

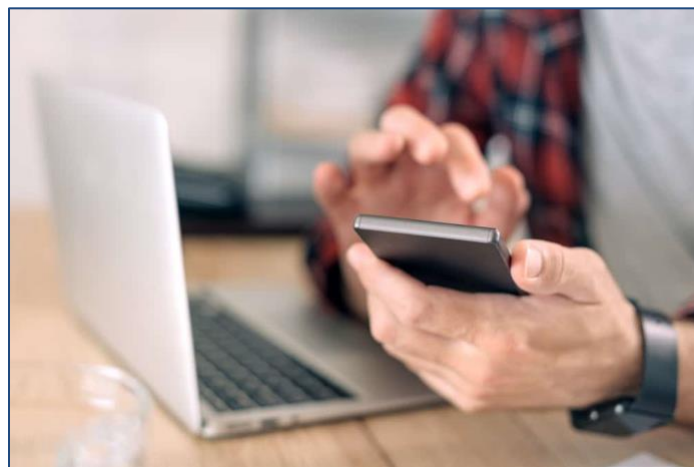
"Hey *[insert friend's name]*! I was really inspired by the story *[insert movie name]*, so I want to share it with you! I've decided to host a *Movie Night* this *[insert date and time of Movie Event]*. I think you'll enjoy the movie! This will be a fun way to have a great evening together. Here's the link to the movie trailer: *[insert trailer link for movie]* After the movie I'll share some fun insights about the film too! I really hope you can join me on *[insert date again]*! Please let me know if you can make it. Thanks!"

We recommend using this template to send another text or email **3-4 days before** your *Movie Event*:

"Hey *[insert friend's name]*! On *[day & time of showing]* at *[location of the Movie Event]* I'll be showing the movie *[insert movie name]*. Here is a link to the movie trailer! *[insert link for trailer]* Snacks and drinks will be provided. Looking forward to seeing you soon!"

You may want to send out a reminder the night before or **the day of** your *Movie Event*. If so, it could be as simple as:

"Hi *[insert friend's name]*! Just as a reminder, I'm looking forward to you coming to the *Movie Night* tomorrow/tonight! *[date, time and location of your Movie Event]* See you soon!"



## BEFORE SHOWING THE MOVIE

It's helpful to download the movie's Bible Discussion Guide document from The Vault at the Cinema Outreach website. Take some time to read through it. This prepares you to understand the redemptive themes found in the movie.

For some movies, you may want to play only clips and summarize themes as they are presented. Save the longer discussions and personal conversations of faith for the very end, but briefly summarizing what is happening in the movie will help solidify the themes in the audience's mind for application to how the movie relates to God.

The Biblical Discussion Guide is divided into topics and questions. The topics and discussion questions are intended to be done in order to ease the audience into deeper and more meaningful Gospel conversations — without jumping into the deepest questions before they are ready for them. While these topics are meant to be done in order, think through what is most applicable for your group, maybe even create your own questions. And don't be afraid to naturally follow wherever the discussion leads.

## SHOWING THE MOVIE

Once your friends arrive at your venue, relax and enjoy your time together. Feel free to chat about what you think makes this movie an entertaining film. Be sure to not linger too long chit-chatting before showing the film so you don't run out of time to talk after the movie is finished.

Grab your snacks, dim the lights, settle in and enjoy your movie!

## AFTER THE MOVIE IS OVER

When the movie is finished, take a moment and ask what your friends thought of the movie. People will always have some opinions to share. This is a good springboard into an engaging conversation. As they share their thoughts, you can steer the conversation to the redemptive themes in the movie. *And off you go into an evangelistic conversation!*



## SIMPLE STEPS TO LEADING SOMEONE TO FAITH IN JESUS

If you want to have the joy of leading a person to faith in Jesus, you need to know a few basic truths. These truths can be stated in different ways, but they essentially follow these points:

1. **God loves you! He has lovingly created you and desires to have a relationship with you.**
  - 1 John 4:16 “And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. ... God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”
2. **We all live our lives separated from God. We have all messed up.**
  - Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”
3. **God took the initiative again to restore the broken relationship between us and Him by sending Jesus to die on the cross for us.**
  - John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only son that however believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”
4. **Salvation is personal and requires a personal response. The big question is what are you going to do about it? Are you ready to accept His sacrifice on the cross? Will you follow Jesus?**
  - Romans 10:9 “If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”
  - John 1:12 “Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

### Your Personal Testimony

It's helpful to be prepared to share your own personal testimony of how you came to faith in Jesus. It can be inspiring for someone who is searching for meaningful answers to life to hear how God has led you into a personal relationship with Jesus. Sharing the circumstances of *why* you were looking for the Truth can also help others identify with your story. And sharing *what God has done* in your life and *how He has changed you* since you've trusted Jesus as your Lord and Savior is also encouraging to see the power of God's love in action in your life.

## HOSTING-AN-EVENT PRAYER GUIDE

Okay, so you want to have a movie night to share all about our incredible God with your friends. Before you go out and invite anyone, take some time to pray about the inviting process. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to invite the people He is preparing, and to empower you with courage during the inviting process.

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do,  
and he will establish your plans.” *Proverbs 16:3*

“For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.” *Romans 1:16*

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.”  
*2 Timothy 1:7*

“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” *1 Corinthians 15:58*

“So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the LORD your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.”  
*Deuteronomy 31:6*

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” *Philippians 4:6*

“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you.” *James 1:5*

“Now get to your feet! For I have appeared to you to appoint you as my servant and witness. Tell people that you have seen me and tell them what I will show you in the future. And I will rescue you from both your own people and the Gentiles. Yes, I am sending you to the Gentiles to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God’s people, who are set apart by faith in me.” *Acts 26:16-18*





## PRAYER POINTS:

### Before inviting:

- Who does God want me to invite?
- Ask him to lead you to people who are already seeking him and have a desire to know him more.
- Pray for opportunities to reach these people and have conversations with them.
- Pray that these people will appreciate the invitation and be interested in attending.
- Pray that they will be available on the date you have selected for the movie night.
- Pray for courage and boldness for yourself. God does not give us a spirit of fear, but of courage.
- Ask the Spirit to speak through you and guide you in this process.

### Sending out the invites:

- Pray for God's blessing to be on each person you invite.
- Pray that they will not be distracted when they receive your invite, but that they will be able to give it their full attention.
- Pray for quick responses and that the people will say yes to coming!

### After inviting:

- Pray that God will work in the hearts to convict the people that this is an event they need to attend.
- Pray that their schedule will remain open and that they will be free to attend your event.
- Pray that they can finish all of their work projects or schoolwork so that they have nothing distracting them or preventing them from attending.
- Pray for their health, especially on the day of the event.
- Pray that they will think of friends to invite who would also enjoy the story and are eager to learn more about God.
- Pray that God will prepare their hearts for the message of his love.

### Day of the event:

- Pray that everyone will be eager to attend, full of excitement and anticipation for a fun night with friends.
- Pray against distractions that could keep them from joining.
- Pray against any uneasiness or nervousness they may feel about participating.
- Pray that God will soften their hearts and open their ears and eyes to be able to receive the message that is told in the film.
- Pray for vulnerability and openness in the group. That the guests may feel comfortable attending and admitting their need for a savior.
- Pray that the people may see God's presence in your life, that God will fill you and shine through you during the event. That the guests may recognize God's impact in your life and desire the same change in their own life.
- Pray that they may be encouraged by the story and desire to know the love of God and desire to have a relationship with him.
- Pray against any feelings of condemnation, guilt or shame. Rather, pray that the guests may open themselves to the forgiving grace and mercy of our God.

**After the event:**

- Pray that God will use the movie to continue to speak to people’s hearts in the following days after watching the movie.
- Pray that the conversations you had with people will bear fruit and be used by God to draw them to Him.
- Pray that they will share with others the truths that they learned.
- Pray for God to send them other Christians to talk to them more about Jesus.
- Pray for other opportunities to get to talk with these friends about God again in the future.

**May God go before you!**

We’re excited to offer you these fun and easy-to-share movies as a helpful way to share your faith and expand God’s Kingdom for His glory! We pray that God will bless your conversations with people and that they will lead to them learning about and accepting Him!



[CinemaOutreach.com/vault](http://CinemaOutreach.com/vault)

