

The Path of the Wind **Group Discussion Guide**

Prepared by Vision Video

Film Synopsis: *The Path of the Wind* is a unique faith-based film that uses the power of video to explore realistic characters and their struggles with difficult faith matters. As an ex-convict, Lee Ferguson's biggest desire is to leave his past behind and make a fresh start with Katie, his new love. Lee's violent past and scheming coworkers are only part of the trouble they face. When Lee finds out Katie is a Christian, his pre-conceived ideas and her moral standards prove to be their most challenging obstacle.

Discuss art as a way of expressing Christian principles (Note for leader: these first 6 questions would make a good lead in before viewing the film.)

- 1 Based on what you know of Christian History, where have you seen art in any form used to express spiritual truth? (Start with the Sistine Chapel and Handel's Messiah and go from there!)
- 2 How have modern media and art forms been used to enhance faith? What is the role of the artist in the examples you've considered?
- 3 Art has also been used to mock or ridicule Christianity. Can you think of examples of this? What impact do these have on the general public?
- 4 Consider the role of the Christian filmmaker. Many Christian films are either overtly evangelical (directed at spiritual seekers) or are designed primarily for the spiritual growth of believers. What is your experience with these types of films?
- 5 The goal of *The Path of the Wind* is to share real life faith struggles of believers and non-believers as they face life challenges. In creating a believable story line, the portrayal of sin is necessary. What are your thoughts on how a Christian filmmaker might work to present relatable, believable characters while respecting differing views on sin and its consequences? Are there limits to what sins can be portrayed in film? And if so what limits would you suggest?
- 6 The theme verse for this production is Ecclesiastes 11:5. Read this verse and discuss it both before and after viewing *The Path of the Wind*.

Discuss concepts explored in *The Path of the Wind*

- 1 As Lee gets out of prison and moves into town he is quickly confronted with a situation similar to the one that landed him in prison in the first place. Why does he respond with violence, even though he knows what the consequences could be? What other options did he have?
- 2 Katie asks Lee out on a date, even though he is not a Christian. Is this wise, in light of II Corinthians 6:14? Should Christians date non-Christians as a legitimate witnessing opportunity or would this be “courting trouble”? (Pun intended!)
- 3 Lee thinks he knows what Christians are like. What negative impressions does our society have of Christians?
- 4 When Lee learns that Katie’s employee is openly gay, he is surprised. Why? How should believers respond to those who are openly gay? Have you personally dealt with this situation? Describe your experience.
- 5 When Katie falls into sexual sin, she responds by ending her relationship with Lee. Is this an appropriate choice? In real life, would the “jilted partner’s” faith search be hindered or helped in this situation?
- 6 Katie and Lee drink alcohol during their dates. Do you think Katie’s choice to drink has any impact on her judgment and ability to keep her commitment to chastity? If Christians choose to drink, are there boundaries that are reasonable to keep?
- 7 When Harry Caldwell tells Lee he forgives him, he makes reference to the letter, which Lee wrote to him from prison asking for forgiveness. What enables Harry to extend his forgiveness after this long time? How is this incident used in Lee’s life?
- 8 What can we learn about forgiveness from the Lord’s Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13? Can a person who never asks for the forgiveness of another still be forgiven?
- 9 Harry Caldwell, a new Christian, uses the terms “hell-of-a-thing” and “damn near.” Does his swearing affect his testimony?
- 10 How do you feel about the ending of the film? Would you describe it as pessimistic, optimistic or realistic? Why?
- 11 Katie expresses her doubts and struggles with the choices she has made. Have you experienced similar regrets? How did you move on in faith?