

Discussion Guide for “The Nativity Story”

After seeing the movie, *The Nativity Story* (2006 New Line Cinema), use this simple guide to start a conversation.

Talk about the Main Themes

Discuss some of the main themes in the movie:

- Political Unrest, Oppression, and Poverty
- Searching for Truth
- Jealousy, Faith, and Hope
- Salvation & Commitment



Why do you think the story from 1 Kings 19:9-13 with Elijah and the *still small voice* was repeated?

Talk about the Main Characters



What did you find interesting, inspiring, or disturbing about the main characters in the movie (Mary, Joseph, Mary’s Parents, Woman Storyteller, Elizabeth, Zechariah, the Magi, Herod, Shepherds, & Gabriel)?

What was in the movie that you did not remember reading in the Bible? From where do you think these details originated?

For example, what did you think about the depiction of the Magi in the movie? According to Matthew 2:1-12, do we know their names? Do we know how many there were?

Talk about the Message

Discuss the different ways “Gift” was used in the film. How did the shepherd use this term? What was the significance of the “gifts” of the Magi? How does this relate to Jesus as God’s gift?

Share your personal response to the message of the birth of Jesus.



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