

Children

Dinner and a Movie

Best Use

As a family activity with any age children

Value

Good conversation around the movie of your choice

Advance Preparation

- Pack a picnic dinner or order in some of your family's favorite food.
- Rent a movie or choose a family favorite to watch together.
- For younger children: Make tickets for the movie or have the kids make their own tickets to sell. (Let the kids have fun deciding the cost, such as 3 hugs and 1 kiss.)
- Set up an area to eat and watch the movie together with pillows, drinks, food, popcorn, etc.

Game Plan

OPTIONAL: You might want to load up in the car and drive around the block to return at your home and show the kids in to the fun dinner/movie theatre you have created. You can do this as a surprise for the kids or have them help and do it as a surprise for dad or another member of the family. Kids can also make drive-in cars out of large boxes. Have fun, be creative, and enjoy your time together.

SAY: "We are going to have a special night at the movies, only a little different."

DO: Watch the movie while you eat dinner and snacks together.

TALK: After the movie is over, talk through the following questions in an age-appropriate way for your children:

- 1. Who is the central character? (The "hero")
- 2. Who or what does the main character want (either consciously or subconsciously)?
- 3. Who or what are the obstacles or problems that must be overcome?
- 4. What was the "ultimate conflict"?
- 5. What wrong choices were made?
- 6. What right choices were made?
- 7. What can we learn from this story?

PRAY: We thank you, Lord, that you have blessed us with our family. Thank you for our time together tonight. Help us to grow closer to each other and to you. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

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