

LifeGroup Study

Creekside At the Movies - Pinocchio

SERMON SUMMARY

Guillermo Del Toro's *Pinocchio* paints a raw picture of grief, imperfect relationships, obedience, and sacrificial love. The story invites us to see our own brokenness and discover the hope of a perfect Father—God—who meets us in our mess, forgives us, and makes us truly alive through Jesus.

KEY VERSES

Philippians 2:5-8

John 3:16

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. Suffering and God's Presence

- In the opening, Geppetto's grief is framed by the image of the crucifix. How does seeing Jesus on the cross change the way we think about suffering in our own lives? (Read John 3:16)
- Suffering and God's Presence

2. Imperfect Fathers and Sons

- How have you experienced the challenges of imperfect family relationships, whether as a parent or child? What hope does 1 Thessalonians 3:12 give us about growing in love even in our imperfections?

3. Obedience and Freedom

- The movie shows "obey" in three different ways: oppressive, manipulative, and protective. What comes to your mind when you hear the word "obedience"? How does John 8:36 reframe obedience as the path to true freedom in Christ?

4. Sacrificial Love

- Pinocchio becomes "truly alive" when he sacrifices his immortality to save Geppetto. How does this point us to Jesus' sacrificial love on the cross? (Read Philippians 2:5-8)

5. The Perfect Father

- In the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-24), how does the father's response to his son reflect the heart of God? What does this mean for you personally when you think about your relationship with God?

CLOSING PRAYER

Father God, thank you that you are the perfect Father who runs to us with open arms. Thank you for sending Jesus, who entered our pain, bore our sin, and showed us the way of true love and freedom. Help us to grow in love, to walk in obedience to You, and to rest in Your grace. May we find our life and identity in You, today and always. Amen.