



Movies At The Cove

Week 3 - The Greatest Showman

Discussion Guide

The life of P.T. Barnum is summed up marvelously in the box office hit, *The Greatest Showman*. From small beginnings, through turbulent times, to finishing strong, this movie captures the imagination. In doing so, it also inspires us to make wise life decisions.

Jump Start

1. Share a time when you started something off with a rough beginning but finished strong.
2. Read [Ephesians 2:10](#) and [Jeremiah 29:11-13](#). *A calling to live.* God wants you to know that He has a great future in store for you. According to Jeremiah, what do we need to do to find God's calling for us? How well have you been doing that? How can you improve in this area?
3. Read [Matthew 16:24-27](#). *A family to love.* In the movie, we see Barnum come to the realization that the things he was chasing weren't actually that valuable. He realized family, community, and purpose were far more important. Is there anything in your life you are chasing that is undermining your happiness? What do you need to stop trying to gain? What do you need to start trying to gain?
4. Read [John 3:16-17](#), [2 Peter 3:9](#), and [Luke 15:17-24](#). *A home to embrace.* Sometimes we chase worldly ambitions, yet those will never feel like "home." We were created to have a home with our Heavenly Father. Have you made the decision to come "home"? To your purpose? To your family? To your Heavenly Father? What is stopping you? How can your Life Group pray for you right now?
5. Final Thought: [Proverbs 16:9 \(NLT\)](#) says, "We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps." The challenge for you is to let the Lord determine your steps. Get up every single morning and ask, "God, what is your plan for me today?" Pray about it each day, throughout the day. Allow God to adjust your course when needed. God doesn't want us to live stressed out lives. He doesn't want us to be driven to prove our self-worth. He already has the best plan of action for our lives; we just need to seek it out.

Deeper

6. In [John 10:7-11](#), Jesus says He wants His followers to have an abundant, or full, life. Do you find this easy or difficult to believe?

7. Read [Matthew 16:24-27](#) and [Matthew 6:25-31](#). How do these passages contrast what is said in [John 10:10](#)? How do they illuminate what is said in [John 10:7-11](#)?
8. What should the Jesus follower think about material possessions? Are they good or bad? Read [James 2:14-17](#) and [Luke 11:11-13](#). How do these passages measure up to the [Matthew 16](#) verse you just read? What do these passages show about God's attitude towards material things?
9. Re-read [Matthew 6:25-31](#), but this time read on to [Matthew 6:32-33](#). How does Jesus tie all of the ideas you have been reading together here?