

How can a Christian Choose a Good Movie?

(video transcript)

By Karen Spiegelberg



Seen any good movies lately? I guess that's relative depending on whether you are choosing from a Christian stand point or not, and seeing as how the quality and character of Hollywood movies has deteriorated over the last few years

I'm Karen Spiegelberg. Welcome to A WORD for Women—a show by women and for women where we build each other up in our amazing and wonderful God-given roles in life!

Here's something I bet most of you didn't know—movie studios were once regulated by a code established in the 1930's to protect the values and morals of society; violent acts had to be tempered, actors couldn't utter the words "God" or "Jesus" in any profane way, and nudity could not be shown. Oh what a difference a few decades makes!

What to do? What to do as a Christian when it comes to making a good choice for a movie to watch?

Every weekend new movies are released and Hollywood marketing is beckoning you to see them. So how do you choose a good and appropriate movie?

First let's start by answering the question, "Why as we as Christians should be discerning in our choice of movies to watch?"

A couple of Bible passages jumped to mind here:

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV) **Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.**

The eyes and ears you have to view that movie are the parts of that body that's a temple of the Holy Spirit. What you choose to see and hear will affect the heart and body—the Holy Spirit dwelling within it.

A little further in 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV) **So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.** Paul's suggestion here is to edify God with your choices.

So, our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit, and we should honor him in that temple with all we do.

Now fast forward to that question of “How do we choose a good movie to watch?”

Here are some questions to ask yourself when considering any particular movie:

- *Is this movie appropriate?* This could have an answer as simple as, “What would Jesus do?”
- *What lessons does the movie teach?* Does it teach us to tolerate or embrace sin?
- *Is there anything uplifting or positive about the movie?* The Bible encourages us to think about things that are true, noble, just, lovely, good, etc.
- *What is the movie rated, and why did it received that rating?* And finally...
- *What do Christian-based resources say about the movie?* Some of those sources are: www.movieguide.org , www.pluggedin.com and the newest source I can offer you is produced right at Salty Earth Pictures is PC's Take which is a spirited movie review by Pastor Mark Schultz. To access his review go to www.saltyearthpictures.org and click on “YouTube Channel”. And while you’re there visiting their website, check out our own movie “Journey to Paradise” which will be released soon.*

Movies are a lot of fun to watch. We as Christians want to enjoy them just as much as the next person, but let’s just be sure we edify God in our choices.

Thank you for joining us on A WORD for Women, and remember that every time you buy a ticket at the theater, you’re casting your vote to Hollywood for what you like. Take the power as a Christian woman and make a good choice with what you see.

*Note: Since the time this video was originally broadcast, a few changes have taken place at Salty Earth Pictures. You can still see some of the reviews by *PC’s Take* on the YouTube channel, but the current movie SEP produced “Open Door” is now an award-winning movie available for your movie library! Check out all the Christian-friendly movies SEP has in their lineup. You can order from their website or ours at www.awordforwomen.com

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