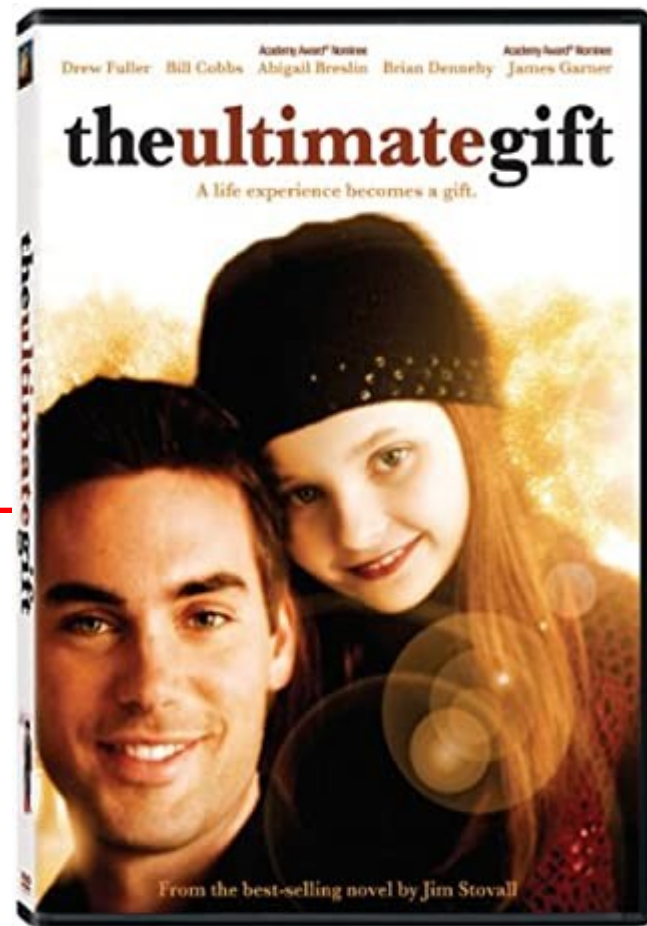


# the ultimate gift



In “The Ultimate Gift,” spoiled trust fund baby, Jason Stevens, is tasked with completing a “life’s lessons scavenger hunt” by his late grandfather in order to receive his inheritance. Along the way, Jason meets Emily, a young cancer patient. His selfish attitude slowly changes as Emily’s unwavering joy teaches him what really matters in life. Emily’s demonstration of joy, despite her circumstances, is powerful enough to change another person.

Questions: Have you ever considered that there is a difference between being happy and being joyful? From the Book of James, we consider happiness as circumstantial and allow joy to come from God. Happy is cookie, Joy is cookie happy times a million. “Dear Brothers and Sister, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity to find joy. -James 1:2 Are there any things in your life that make it hard for you to find joy? Ask God to help you experience joy in those areas of your life Do you have a plan for your life? Make a list of all the things you want, things to do and places to go. Where did Emily find joy? Why did Jason have to go on a scavenger hunt of lessons? List the lessons— any idea to make that lesson more important in your life?

Parent notes PG (for thematic elements, some violence and language) Arguing; tense family arguing; man is homeless and sleeps on park bench; characters are held at gun-point, kidnapped by South American drug lords then held hostage and threatened with death before escaping; man is beaten, but mostly off-screen; some fighting and gunshots but without any deaths. 2 hours. For older kids and teens. Hallmark like movie. I actually did a sermon series based on this movie and each of the gifts.

Closing Prayer: *Thank You God for this day and this movie that we can enjoy and learn from! Put the message You want me (us) to learn and put it into our heart. May the birth of Jesus be the present and presence of this time. Amen*