

Trinity Family Film Guide
(For use by Families or in Small School/Church Groups)

Missing Link: Prioritizing People

With the help of Missing Link, we will be exploring the importance of prioritizing people in our decision-making processes. The main character of this film undergoes a transformation in his priorities as he encounters a Sasquatch and recognizes the value of friends over fame.

Duration: 2-3 hours

Materials Needed: Brown paper to cut into footprints, food as desired, blank cards, writing utensils

Recommended Movie Snack or Meal: Consider eating whole fruits and vegetables, leafy greens, and/or chicken wings or other meat on bones, just like a Sasquatch might.

View it with a Twist (optional): The Sasquatch lives in a cave. Use the space under a table, a big closet etc. to create your own cave for film viewing.

Note to Parents/Adults about Film Guides:

Movies are a great way to relax and spend time together as a family/group. With a little intentionality, we can make them a special place of connection and growth, as well as a joyful viewing experience. Every Family Film Guide focuses on one theme and seeks to walk adults through engaging their family/group in a growth experience around that theme. For some families/groups, these conversations might seem scary and even awkward, but take courage knowing you are setting the norm of connection and a learning heart in each of your children. If your kids seem too young or too “cool” to participate in some of these things, then at least let them see you participating. They will catch on or warm up. Also, make sure not to underestimate them. Give them plenty of opportunity to participate.

Parental Warning for *Missing Link*: (Suitable for older children)

Missing Link is an animated action movie with the entire plot unraveling over the course of a life/death man hunt. The film and guide should be used with older children as a great resource to discuss what is most important as big life decisions approach.

Before Starting:

Make sure you have read through the entire guide before starting the movie. Gather your supplies and your courage before starting. If you feel rushed going into it, slow down and just pick one or two activities to do. Then just enjoy the movie. It is better to do something well than to stress or rush through the whole thing. Plan further ahead for the next one if necessary, but **don't forget to enjoy this special time with your kids!**

Pre-Movie Exercise:

Introduction: As adults, introduce the movie (with whatever disclaimer you might want to make for potential scary scenes) with the theme of “Prioritizing People.”

Just for Fun: The main character’s name is Lionel Frost, an epic adventurer’s name. Take time to determine adventurer, spy, hero names for each participant. What would your name be if you ran around all the time with fancy gear and top-secret missions? Consider calling each other by these aliases the remainder of your time together.

First Intermission:

(24 minutes, 26 seconds—after Mr. Link explains his problem of loneliness)

Activity: Big Foot, Big Goals—(Goal): To create conversation around what each participant is after in life.

Instructions: In the movie, Mr. Link expressed his goal of finding friendship. Today our main objective is to discuss our own goals and dreams, and to consider the importance of factoring people into those goals and dreams. Give each participant a paper cut-out of a Sasquatch or a foot, and a utensil to write with. Or kids could create their own foot print and cut it out.

Step 1: Have each participant take time to record three goals of theirs on this footprint, one which they hope to attain in the next year, one in the next five years, and one in the next twenty years. They should write their names on their lists.

Step 2: Circle up. Pick one person to leave the room leaving their footprint list behind. Meanwhile, the individual to the right of the absent person should get up and hide the left-behind list under another member of the circle, so that absent person can come back and look for their missing Bigfoot’s print.

Step 3: The absent person may now return and standing in the middle of the circle gets to ask three people three questions, which they may or may not answer truthfully, and gets one guess as to the location of their list. Once the list is found, they should share it aloud with the group, allowing space for questions and conversation as applicable.

Step 4: Repeat with all participants.

Second Intermission:

(After Mr. Link chooses the new name of Susan)

Share: Named After Love

Instructions: Mr. Link chose a new name of Susan for himself because this was the name of a woman who treated him lovingly. If you were to be renamed for the most impactful lovers in your life, what would your new name be. Keep your last name, but pick two names to become your “new” first and middle name. Don’t worry, you can still use your “Spy/adventurer” alias moving forward.

Post-Movie Exercise:

Activate: People First

Introduction: Lionel Frost had a habit of treating people as little more than tools on his journey toward his bigger goals. We need the help of people in reaching our goals, but as this movie helps remind us, no goal is satisfying that costs us connection with those around us.

Step 1: Using their goal list from earlier, every person should take some time to pick 1-3 people whose help they are going to need to accomplish those goals. It may or may not be some of the same people they named themselves after before.

Step 2: Using blank cards or paper, each person should now create a brief letter to these people sharing their list of goals and expressing how they need that person's help.

Step 3: Each person can end their personal letter with this sentence. "Help me achieve my goals, but help me make sure I prioritize you and the other people in my life along the way. I don't want to get the goals and miss the people."

Family/Group Statement:

Step 1: Say the following out loud as an entire group:

We're dreaming big and putting people first.

Step 2: Thank yourself (from us) for making your family/group movie time "A Trinity Family" movie time!

Created by: Andrew Wiens and A Trinity Family

A Trinity Family is here to help you make the most of your moments and to seize the days you have to influence children.

Check us out at **ATrinityFamily.org**

