

Movie – “The Fellowship Of The Ring” by Ben Barwick

MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION:

- 1 Preview the movie, *The Fellowship of the Ring* and be familiar with the clips to be discussed.
- 2 Dry erase board and marker
- 3 Pencil and paper for each student
- 4 TV, DVD player to show the clips
- 5 Bibles for every student

Summary of *The Lord of the Rings*

The Lord of the Rings is a classic fantasy by J.R.R. Tolkien that tells the story of a hobbit named Frodo Baggins who is forced onto a quest that holds the future of Middle Earth in his and his friend Sam Wise’s hands. The two set off to destroy the ring of power that holds the malice and hatred of the long thought dead lord of Mordor named Sauron and also the ability for him to return to Middle Earth. The story is an epic of good versus evil: the men, dwarves, elves, ents, and the wizard Gandalf against the evil powers of the orcs, the urukai, and the evil wizard Saruman. *The Fellowship of the Ring* is the first movie of the trilogy.

SESSION OUTLINE

FOCUS

Ask students for a show of hands on who has seen *The Fellowship of the Ring*. Invite those who have seen it to share with those who haven’t the overall story line. Then ask: *Based on what you know about the movie, what do you think it would have to say about the topic of “technology”?*

CONNECT WITH THE MOVIE

- 1 Ask students to watch for how technology is portrayed in the first clip.
- 2 Show Chapter 1, “Prologue: One Ring to Rule Them All...” (0:30-7:14)

This is the prologue of the movie. It gives the back story needed in order to understand what is going on in the following movies. It discusses the forging of the ring of power and the first over-throw of Sauron.

- 3 After showing the clip, discuss how technology was portrayed. Make a list on a wipe board.

- 4 Hand out paper and pencils and ask students to make a list of all of the technology they use every day.
- 5 Show Chapter 2 “The Shire” (7:14-11:12). This second chapter basically takes us through one of the towns of the hobbits called Hobbiton. Here we get a glimpse into the everyday lives of the hobbits and see how they live simple, low-tech lives.
- 6 Ask students to write down all the technology that they saw being used in Hobbiton. Tell them to compare the use of technologies in Hobbiton and in their lives. What would their lives look like if they had less technology? How would it be better? Worse?
- 7 Show Chapter 16 “The “Caverns of Isengard” (1:04:51-1:07:23). This chapter shows us the world of Isengard. In stark contrast to Hobbiton, it is a world of industry that tears up the earth and seems to sap it of life. The industry is being used to manufacture war technology along with a new race—the Urukai.
- 8 Discuss: How can technology destroy the world?

CONNECT WITH THE BIBLE

- 1 Discuss: How does God feel about technology?
- 2 Ask students to turn to Genesis 11:1-9 and read the story of the Tower of Babel.

REFLECT

- 1 Discuss: How does the story of the Tower of Babel relate to our discussion of technology? What does it say to you about what God thinks about technology?
- 2 Do you think that today the world is in a position similar to when the Tower of Babel was built? Why or why not?
- 3 What do you think is God’s message to the world today?
- 4 What is God’s message to you regarding technology in your life?