



Pop goes CATHOLICISM Resource Sheet

Up In The Air

Media Information

Rating: R
Year: 2009
Director: Jason Reitman
Stars: George Clooney
 Vera Farmiga

Clip Description

Timing: 1:20:00-1:25:20
 (Chapter 13 on the DVD, a bit into 14)

Movie Description:
 This movie tells the story of Ryan, a man whose job is to fly around the country firing people. His solitary life is frequent flier miles, until his transience is cut short by web conferencing & he falls in love, forcing a reevaluation of priorities and life choices.

Clip Description:
 In this clip, his older sister asks him to talk to his younger sister's fiancé about his cold feet on their wedding day.

Warning: this clip (as well as much of this R-rated movie) features explicit language (f-words, s-words, etc.)

Related

Scripture:
 Genesis 2:18
 Matthew 16:18

Catechism:
 #1878-1879
 #1882

Faith Connection

This movie is about recognizing the importance of others in our life: family, friends, and love. Ryan begins the movie with none of these. In the clip his sister says “basically you don’t exist to us.” To try to fix that, Ryan talks to Jim, the fiancé with cold feet. Jim asks Ryan “what’s the point?” (of getting married, starting a life with someone that puts you on a known path). Ryan responds “your favorite memories, the most important moments in your life; were you alone?” When Jim responds no, Ryan comes to the point: “life’s better with company.” After Jim goes back to get married, Ryan’s sister tells him “welcome home.” In Genesis, God says that it’s not good for people to be alone. The Old Testament is the story of God revealing himself not to individuals but to an entire nation. And Jesus, the definitive revelation of God, gathers a community of disciples and apostles around himself to share the Good News. Clearly, “the point” is that we humans were built to be together, for only together do we know and share God’s love. God is three persons sharing love. He calls us to the same.

Discussion Questions

1. Where do other people fall in your priorities?
2. How would you answer the question “what’s the point” of your life?
3. How does the above faith connection impact your opinion of being Catholic without being a part of a community?
4. Who in your life offers you a regular “welcome home”? Who do you wish would?

