

“A Walk to Remember” starring Mandy Moore, Shane West, Peter Coyote, 2002, PG, 101 minutes

Major themes:

- Respect
- Rebellion
- Illness
- Understanding
- Prejudice
- Love
- Astronomy
- Belonging
- Faith
- Redemption

Major characters:

- Landon Rollins Carter
- Jamie Elizabeth Sullivan
- Reverend Hegbert Sullivan
- Cynthia Carter

Movie Nights for Thinkers and Seekers

Background info:

- The film's tagline is, *"She didn't belong. She was misunderstood. And she would change him forever."*
- This movie was filmed in only thirty-nine days. Mandy Moore was only allowed to work for 10 hours a day because she was still a minor.
- The film is set on North Carolina's Inner Banks, in the town of Beaufort (pronounced *"BO-furt,"* to distinguish it from a South Carolina town of the same name). Established in 1709 as a trade and customs port, Beaufort is the third oldest town in the state.
- Director Adam Shankman makes a cameo appearance as the nurse pushing Jamie out of the hospital room when she is discharged from the hospital for private home care.
- Roger Ebert, American film critic, historian, journalist, screenwriter, and author, and the first film critic to win the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism, called *"A Walk to Remember"* a small treasure.
- The inspiration for this film was Nicholas Sparks' sister, Danielle Sparks Lewis, who died of cancer in 2000.

Movie Nights for Thinkers and Seekers

Scriptures:

Romans 5:6–8 (The Message) – *“Christ arrives right on time to make this happen. He didn’t, and doesn’t, wait for us to get ready. He presented himself for this sacrificial death when we were far too weak and rebellious to do anything to get ourselves ready. And even if we hadn’t been so weak, we wouldn’t have known what to do anyway. We can understand someone dying for a person worth dying for, and we can understand how someone good and noble could inspire us to selfless sacrifice. But God put his love on the line for us by offering his Son in sacrificial death while we were of no use whatever to him.”*

Matthew 7:6 (NLT) – *“Don't waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you.”*

1 Corinthians 13:4 (ESV) – *“Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant.”*

John 15:13 (NLT) – *“There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.”*

Hebrews 11:1 (The Message) – *“The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It’s our handle on what we can’t see.”*

Romans 12:4-5 (NLT) – *“Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.”*

Matthew 5:23–24 (The Message) – *“If you enter your place of worship and, about to make an offering, you suddenly remember a grudge a friend has against you, abandon your offering, leave immediately, go to this friend and make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God.”*

Movie Nights for Thinkers and Seekers

Discussion points:

1. Landon says, "*Jamie has faith in me. She makes me want to be different. Better.*" What in this film makes you want to be better?
2. What do you value most in life?
3. How can the way we view ourselves affect how others see us? how others see themselves?
4. What are some practical ways to cultivate care, concern, and warmth, in contrast to apathy, indifference, or cynicism?
5. What kinds of relational boundaries did you notice in this film?
6. How important is it to defend others when they are being treated unfairly?
7. What lessons can we learn about love from Jamie and Landon's struggles?
8. What does this film say about our human need to belong?