

BRIGHT EYES DISCUSSION GUIDE

Shirley Temple stole the hearts of millions of Americans and provided them with great entertainment to get people through the hard times of the depression. A *black and white*, 1934 film classic, rated PG, where sweet heroine, Shirley Temple, softens the heart of crotchety old, wealthy Uncle Ned while helping her godfather reunite with his one true love.

www.netflix.com/Search?v1=%22Bright+Eyes%22.

Shirley Temple died at age 85 in February, 2014.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/tv-movies/shirley-temple-dead-85-agent-article-1.1609308>

- What kind of topics does this movie address? *death & grief, wealth, adversity, adoption, aviation, hitchhiking*
- What aging issues did this film make you aware of? *impacting the next generation with your wealth, need to be truly loved and valued*
- What would you consider to be the main point of the story? Do you agree or disagree with that point? *Compassion and good triumph over greed. God can carry us through when tragedy happens and even use our lives as an example and an encouragement to others.*
- Do you think it is a “seniors” responsibility to share their wealth with the younger generations? Proverbs 13:22 says, “A good man leaves an inheritance to his grandchildren, but the sinner’s wealth is stored up for the righteousness.”
- Which character did you admire most? Why?
- What character is most like you? How?
 - Mary Blake: *Shirley’s mother, a maid for a rich family*
 - Shirley Blake: *orphan, sweet, compassionate, joyful spirit, focuses on the good things in life*
 - Joy Smyth: *rude, selfish, brat, compassionless*
 - Uncle Ned Smith: *funny, political, wheelchair bound, rich, annoyed by JOY, but is fond of Shirley because she is nice to him, wants to adopt Shirley*
 - Uncle Lou: *Aviator godfather, wants to adopt Shirley*
- What might happen if you imitated the choices or behaviors of the people in this movie?

- BIBLE EXERCISE:

- Bible Drill: Stand in a line. Close Bible with one hand on top and one on bottom. The emcee will tell you the Scripture reference and then say, "Go!" When you find the verse, take a step forward. Read and talk about how the Scripture might relate to this movie:
- James 1:27 says, "*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress.*"
- Jeremiah 29:11 says, "*For I know the plans I have for you*"—*this is the LORD's declaration—"plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.*
- Romans 8:28, "*We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God: those who are called according to His purpose.*"
- John 16:33 says, "I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world."
- In your concordance, look up COMPASSION. How many references are there to it?

- Do you agree/disagree with this statement?

- "Heaven's a very nice place. If we're good, we'll all live there some day." "*Only those who know Christ will go to Heaven.*" John 14:6
- "Ever since your daddy went to Heaven, your mother's been awful lonesome for him...Today your mother got so lonesome for your daddy, she went up to see him." Psalm 139:16 "*All the days ordained for me are written in your book before one of them came to be.*"

- TAKE HOME

- What is God's plan for your life right now?
- Do you know a wealthy older adult that could really use a true friend and not someone who likes them for their money?

- ACTION

- Sit down with a senior and ask them to share their stories. Listen carefully!