



**Title**

**21st Century Parables:  
God's voice in Modern Day Cinema**

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## Abstract

This dissertation examines the concept that God is speaking in modern day film, and how the church can utilise this in ways that bridge the sacred and secular in sharing the message of Jesus in a contemporary and biblical way. The primary research question this case study sought to answer was 'Do the movies that people watch, have an impact on lifestyle choices, and moral or spiritual significance in a person's life as they engage with what they experience through film?' The answers to this question were found, using three intertwining strategies. Firstly the methodology is explained as to how the case study was done and what best practices needed to be implemented. Secondly, taking into account the 'meaning-making' for people, Surveys and Questionnaires were filled in by seventeen participants before and after watching the case study film 'Lars and the Real Girl'. Finally, after the results of the case study were examined a few of the participants were interviewed. The use of parables in the Old and New Testament were discussed, and combined with the case study results, ways of using film to teach spiritual/biblical truths were examined. Data has been collected from journals, books, websites, blogs and interviews. This dissertation proposes that film does impact the 'meaning-making' of people, and that the church needs to seriously consider using the parabolic nature of some films.