



## Scripture

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.<sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God -Romans 8:14-16

## About Mamma Mia!

Based on the music of ABBA, Mamma Mia! shares the story of a mother, a daughter who is about to get married, and the daughters hope to connect with the father she never knew. This musical first opened on the West End in 1999. The Broadway premiere would be 2001. It has played on stages in multiple countries to over 60,000,000 people.

## Opening Questions:

1. Who in here knows the music of ABBA?
2. Who has seen the musical or the movie? What did you think?

## Mamma Mia!

Although this show is a fun "Jukebox Musical," it deals with several deep topics. One of those topics is anxiety and fear. It is not a topic you normally associate with ABBA, but it is something that many people struggle with. Let's see what the scriptures have to say to us about fear.

\*Read Isaiah 43:1-4

-Key Verse 43:1 "...Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

1. Do you wrestle with anxiety? The Bible is filled with people whose fear paralyzes them. Repeatedly, God says, "Fear not." Why does God not want us to live in a spirit of fear? The Spirit of God brings us peace (Galatians 5:22-23).
2. In Mamma Mia! Sophia has nightmares about her wedding and her 3 potential fathers. Her imagination is running away with wild possibilities for the future. Our imagination is at the heart of fear and anxiety. God gave us the creative gift of imagination, but apart from our faith in God our imagination can lead us to emotions like fear. Keeping our minds in Christ helps. Read Romans 12:1-2 and talk about how to "transform" and "renew our minds" in Christ. (Bible study, prayer, etc...)

The heart of the story of Mamma Mia! is Sophie's search for her father. As a people of faith, we can understand this hope to have a deep and meaningful connection, especially one with our Heavenly Father.

\*Read Psalm 42

-Key Verse 42:1 "As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God."

1. How do you connect with God? What is something that you do to help grow your faith and deepen your relationship with God?
2. What is one practice that you have that you could share with the class that helps you connect with God? We are God's children and God wants to have a relationship with us. (Romans 8:14-16)

Close by singing Dancing Queen together...or close in prayer. Or both.