

## Why Film Club?

The Methodist Church is committed to deepening the discipleship of all who walk with God and all who seek to walk with God.



**Watching films is a great way to explore the discipleship journey**

Whatever is going on in our life, can be our discipleship journey. Sometimes we need a hand to ask the 'where is God in all of this' question.

Film Club is a good place to start

asking 'where is God in my life?' and 'is the path of discipleship I am on, the one God wants me on?'

Film Club is part of the EDEV initiative— a boost of money into Districts to provide practical resources, to deepen the discipleship and extend the vocation of all people in a Methodist community.

Watching films then exploring questions with others is a great way to explore discipleship and extend vocation.

Production company Icon Films. Therefore you need to have a license to show this film from FilmBank

### Summary of regulations and advice:

#### **Film Bank**

Film Bank list the producers CCLI don't, but don't cover the ones they do, and they are not as geared up for Churches. They don't licence film clips for example. This company cover Warner Bros and Sony.

Public Video Screening licence (PVSL) costs £95.18 for churches with up to 249 people attending the film. The licence runs from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> April and is a flat rate whatever time of year you apply.

- The licence can only be taken out for a full year
- All films must be shown free of charge
- The films may only be shown within the licensed premises
- The films may only be shown to the licensed group
- There should be no advertising or promotion of the film screening outside of the licensed premise and to no other than the licensed group
- No outdoor screenings are permitted
- Quarterly reports are to be submitted every 3 months from the start of the licence term listing all films screened. In other words, you tell them which films you have used.

*Single screening license is £79 for up to 200 people watching.*

Full information and regulations to be found at [www.filmbank.co.uk](http://www.filmbank.co.uk)

## EDEV FILM CLUB Whale Rider



running time : 97 minutes

Production Company Icon Films

Summary: A Maori community claim their descent from Paikea, the Whale Rider. Since then the male heir as succeeded as chief.

In a culture steeped in tradition, one young girl challenged the past and found hope for the future.



### Discipleship journey:

*Pai watches through the window at the leadership school.*

- Have you ever been hungry to learn how to live out your Christian journey or a specific calling, but felt excluded? How has this exclusion affected your journey?

*Pai's uncle re-finds his desire and skill for the spiritual connection when he teaches Pai what he knows.*

Does this have any resonance for you?

Pai was trying to follow her path and she came across various barriers. She never lost courage.

Are there times when you come across barriers in your discipleship journey? What have these barriers been? How do you cope with the barriers you have experienced?

Pai is clear that unity and joint working is how community thrives. How is your discipleship journey enhanced in community?

### Vocation and calling:

- Are spiritual journey and our calling the same thing or different from each other? Has God called us to a discipleship journey through which we find our calling, or are the two less inter-connected?
  - *Koro thought his vocation was to be the whale-rider. His disappointment that he was not the whale-rider, has warped his whole life and his expectations of his own sons and grandchild.*
    - Have you ever felt that your vocation has not been fulfilled?
    - Do you feel that you have not found your calling / vocation?
    - Have you ever felt that you are living out the wrong vocation?
  - *Pai has a deep spiritual, seemingly natural desire, which deeply connects her to her community and her calling. She also needs to learn many things to fulfil this calling.*
    - To what degree is your calling a 'natural desire' and to what degree has it been learnt?
  - *Pai was sure of her calling throughout the film, even when she did not receive encouragement.*
    - How do you stay true to your calling when there is little encouragement?
- Pai had the quiet support of her grandmother, uncle and his girlfriend.
- who quietly supports you?

### Leadership:

*Koro is determined that he knows the whale rider will come through a first born, and when his own family doesn't provide the right son, he looks to others families. He does overlook his first-born granddaughter. However, in the end Koro has been proven almost right; it was a first-born descended from the original Pai whale rider who is the new leader.*

- In church life, have we sometimes looked in the wrong places for the people to lead us? Share some examples of this.
  - Due to our traditions and expectations, are there people in our current community who we might be overlooking for leadership?

*Throughout the film, Koro was looking for a new leader.*

- Have you ever been an unexpected leader? If so, how did that feel?
  - When we see the leadership of others, do we accept it? Do we accept the leadership of those who either we didn't think could be our leader, or whose style of leadership if different from what we are used to?

