

Summer of Cinema – The Good Girl, 2002

Scripture:

“Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger.”

Proverbs 19:15

(Jesus speaking) “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

John 10:10

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23

Romans 1:18-32

Movie Summary:

Justine Last is a cosmetics salesperson at the local “Retail Rodeo” who is married to husband, good-hearted Phil, who is a house-painter. Phil’s favourite pastime is getting high every night with his friend, Bubba. Her life doesn’t seem to carry much beyond those realities and her heart wanders. Enter new, young, and good-looking salesclerk, Holden Worther. She and Holden connect on a deeper level as his passionate energy tempts Justine toward an affair.

Life seems fine until one day Bubba reveals his knowledge of the affair and life spirals further out of control.

Discussion:

The key scene seems to be that moment when Justine is sitting in her car and thinking about her next choice of whether to run away for Holden or stay with her husband. She looks down the road of her future and sees...uncertainty.

Two things to discuss – boredom, and consequences of choices

There is a saying “idle hands are the devils workshop.” But minds are the source of idle hands. What does the Word say about boredom? How do you deal with it? As artists how could we address it as a community?

Deuteronomy 30:19 says “I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live”. Is consequences of choices a good motivator? Are you willing to face the consequences of your choices? How does the Gospel inform your answer here?