
Ryan Taylor GEM Update - Stillness (July, 2024)

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RYAN LEE TAYLOR FILM AND MINISTRY



⁹ *As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.*

John 15:9

Growing up in the church, it becomes strangely easy to grow numb to the regular elements of the Christian walk. Over years of having them boxed and packaged, in the midst of all the noise and chaos of our modern world and church culture, these beautiful truths have a tendency to have their richness, their depth, their simplicity fade in our eyes.

Sometimes it takes a moment (or several) of stepping out of the chaos, closing our ears to the noise, and braving the stillness of our hearts to regain a glimpse of the true glory of the way.

Once we do, we open ourselves up to the overwhelming recognition of just how close the treasure of the Kingdom truly is.

Retreat

True stillness with God is something I have alternatively been chasing after and falling away from throughout the last couple years.

This summer, I had a rare opportunity in this middle season of life, approaching the ending of our time in Bucharest and preparing for the return to Germany, to slow down and seek an internal reformation of stillness with the Lord. On top of spending several days away in the Carpathian Mountains, I spent extra time on my balcony and wandering the parks here in Bucharest, places that have become sacred spaces for me to meet with the Father. I even spent a week fasting from media in order to better cultivate those quiet moments that bring us back to ourselves.

I cannot express the joy and relief that I've found in this quieter season, **the treasure of truly leaning, truly abiding**. Building a foundation with the Lord off of which to launch into this new season of life in Germany and the adventures He has in store.

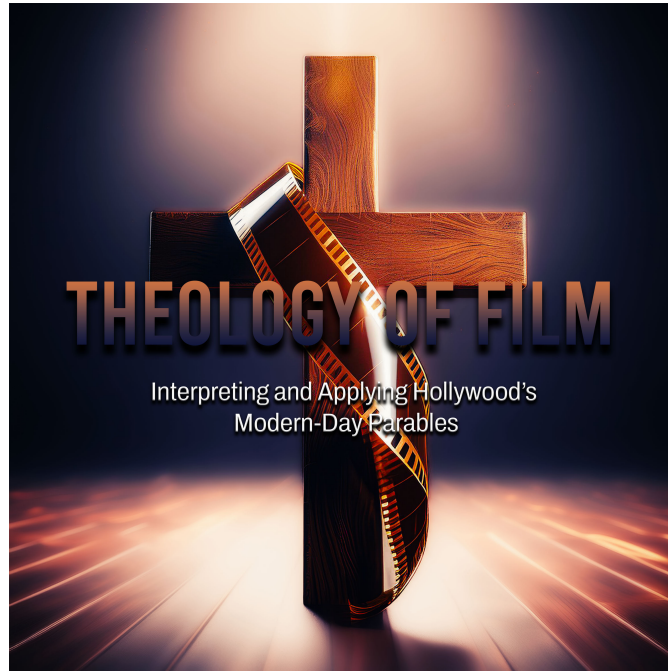


Nothing quite like warm summer nights with the Lord...

New Things

One of the other joys of June was getting to work on some some new ministry initiatives for GemStone Media, one of which I'm especially excited about!

Within the next month, we'll be releasing the first episode of ***Theology of Film***, a new podcast designed to encourage Christians to think more deeply about how we engage with a world of media.



The podcast is hosted by myself and my friend Laura Hewett, a youth pastor in New Zealand. **The hope is to help spark dialogue and curiosity about the ways our biblical worldview can be utilized in concert with the stories we encounter everyday, all with an aim at becoming better imagers and stewards of God's word in our daily lives.** Story is a powerful tool in our world, and we hope this podcast will help people learn how to wield it well!

We just recorded our first episode and are hoping to be able to release them on a monthly basis starting soon! Keep an eye out for the official announcement of the first episode's release!

Adieu

Things have been getting pretty exciting in the world of *Adieu* as well!

If you don't recall, last month our film *Adagio* was retitled to *Adieu* in an effort to better reflect the story and its meaning. Well, now, that new title is enjoying its first moment in the sun.



Earlier this month, an article highlighting Adieu written by [Leslie Weirich](#), a speaker and leading suicide prevention advocate, was published! Leslie cites Adieu as a positive example of how movies can make a real difference in the lives of the audience.

Please take a moment to [read the short article talking about Adieu here](#) and feel free to share it with others. Thanks!

Along with the article, we have been hearing encouraging news and response to our script from casting agencies and potential actors that we've been reaching out to in Hollywood. There's nothing we're able to share yet, as things are very much still in process, so **please join us in prayer for God to hand-pick the actors that He wants to play in the movie and for all the details, partnerships and finances to be provided by His hand.** Thank you!

What's Next

Prior to my team's return to Germany, I get to enjoy a special return on my own. In just a couple days, I'll be traveling back to Ireland in order to serve on staff at this year's summer GEM-K retreat!

Serving and mentoring our organization's teenagers for at GEM-K is something I look forward to every year, and this year is made even more special by the fact that the camp is being held at a location that I used to go to often for retreats with my family as a child! I'm very excited.

When I return from that trip, the team and I will be just ten days away from beginning our trip back to Germany, where the adventure will continue.

Till next time...

- Ryan Lee Taylor

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Prayer Requests

- For my time returning to Ireland and serving at GEM-K. I'm not sure what emotions being back on the Emerald Isle will bring up. Please pray that I'm able to hold them well and engage fully with the teens!
- That our final preparations for the move back to Germany will be smooth and that the drive will be easy and uneventful!
- For God to provide the right financial partners and actors for Adieu. That He would pour out His wisdom and discerning Spirit on us as we take meetings and negotiate deals.



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<https://gemission.org/donatemissionary/ryan-taylor/>

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