

# MEETING JESUS AT THE MOVIES GUIDE



## CODA

2021, 1 hr 51 min

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**Themes:** Family, Community, Vocation, Sacrifice

**Focus:** *St. Paul urges families to love one another, to strive to implement the listed virtues in their lives after the example of Jesus. As a CODA (child of deaf adults), Ruby also tries to live virtuously by aiding her family in every way she can, even as she struggles to follow her dream of going to music school.*

**Scripture:** Colossians 3: 12-14, 16, 18-21

So, then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with true compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience; bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a grievance against someone else. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, you too should do the same. But over all these things put on love, which perfects and binds the whole. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish each other with all wisdom; sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God with thanks in your hearts. Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and don't be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in all things, for that is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, don't cause your children to be resentful, so they won't become discouraged. (Alternative Scripture—Mt 5: 13-16)

### For Reflection and Conversation:

1. What impressed you most about this film? Which character(s) most inspired you and why? Did anything about the Rossi family dynamics 'speak' to you? If so, what and why? How did Ruby embody the virtues St. Paul mentions? How do you embody these virtues?
2. Ruby felt compelled by family loyalty to give up her own dreams in order to help with the family business. Have you ever felt that way? Have life situations ever caused you resentment? How do you deal with that? How can Ruby's experience help you?
3. *CODA* depicts the deaf culture very authentically. Have you ever encountered deaf people personally? What would you do if you did to treat them with respect? How would you interact with them? Why is it important to include those who are different in community?
4. Miles experienced Ruby's family very differently than Ruby did. Why? What did Miles see in Ruby's parents that inspired him? Could your living of family life be an example to others? Why or why not? How might you improve so as to be a better example?
5. Talk about the transformation that Ruby's family experiences as they begin to realize that she wants to sing and once she leaves for school. How did that come about? What fears may be holding you back from engaging with your community? How can you overcome those fears?

### Closing Prayer:

Lord God, you call us to live virtuously within all our relationships but especially within our families. Make our families places that offer inspiration and example for others. May we welcome those who are different from ourselves and have the courage to sing your praises in all situations. Amen.

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