

'Grace Unplugged' Explores Fame, Family and Faith

Grace Unplugged—a prodigal son story meets modern-day worship scene—is the newest faith film to hit theaters.

Opening in select theaters on Friday, the family-friendly movie follows the turbulent relationship of Johnny (James Denton), a former rock star turned worship leader dad, and his vocally talented daughter, Grace (AJ Michalka of 78violet).

Despite her wholesome family upbringing, Grace begins to rebel and sets her sights on secular stardom. The 18-year-old runs away from her Alabama home to the bright lights of Hollywood and soon discovers fame has a dark side.

Wrapped in the main story line is the tender narrative of a father-daughter relationship that illustrates how even flawed human beings can make amends through the grace of God. The characters of Johnny and Grace are relatable as they grapple with a parent's desire to protect his offspring and a child's fight to be her own person.

Without being too explicit, the film captures the perils of a sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll lifestyle. Conversely, it conspicuously shows God's relentless grace and forgiveness. Christian families will be relieved to find an enjoyable film that is unashamed about bringing the gospel message to the silver screen.

The Lionsgate film cost \$1.7 million and deployed trained actors, such as Kevin Pollak (*A Few Good Men*), to bring a realistic depiction of a person faced with the dilemma of following Christ or their own path to true happiness.

Though the film is targeted for young adults, it will make an enjoyable cinematic experience for all. The film is rated PG.