

Name _____

The Transformation of Suffering in Film

Consider these questions as you view the film *The Butler* (2013, 113 minutes, rated PG-13), jotting down brief thoughts that you can refer to later. After the film, your teacher will provide further instructions.

1. Focus on the main character, Cecil Gaines, and his son Louis: How do you see a willingness to suffer persecution for the sake of what is good and right in the lives of these characters?
2. How does this film reveal the reality of sin and suffering in society as a whole? (Give examples from at least two different time periods.)
3. Both Cecil and Louis practice sacrifice and self-denial because of their commitment to what is good and right. What are some of the sacrifices each character makes?
4. What events or characters in this film help you to understand the choice to suffer persecution for the sake of righteousness?
5. How does this film show that through God's transforming power, suffering can lead to hope and true happiness?
6. Which character's willingness to do what is right despite persecution inspires you the most? Why?
7. How can faith in the transforming power of God in the Paschal Mystery help you to respond to prejudice and bigotry today?

