Feedback for Beyond the Gates of Splendor

For me this movie will have special meaning to me as a Christian. Although the event just showed the documentary. Five missionaries, five servants, die because of Jesus' Name. Does it worth? Yes! Sometimes I look back to my life. I always condemn God because of something trivial. I can see how faithless I am. Those families whose husband had had dead. They still keep the faith and serve the God. I can hardly imagine how they can do that. I have no wife or girlfriend now but I think I will collapse if my wife or girlfriend dies. I don't know how much grace the missionary family will get. God will measure it. Oh! Sign! I have followed him for five years and I can't believe that I say something like that which is very faithless. I have to say that it is really, really not easy to follow God, to do his will. My priest of my home church always tell us to keep in mind that "Not my will but His will be done!" How hard is it? The evidence always precedes the faith. That makes me very, very confuse. I am afraid.

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Beyond the Gate

Beyond the Gate is a powerful and moving story with an overall feeling of faith and hope. The movie chronicles the life of Mincaye, a young Waodani warrior who, along with other tribesmen, killed five North American missionaries in Ecuador. The story also focuses on another character named Steve Saint, the son of Nate Saint, one of the four men slain by Waodani. The film shows how Steve Saint came to visit the tribe as a boy, learning to love and forgive them. I think that Beyond the Gate is a very powerful and beautifully told, this film goes on to tell the incredible story since then of forgiveness and love on the part of family members left behind. Furthermore, the film is exceptionally well weaving loss, tears, sadness with an occasional interjection of laughter to help the view through to the end. After watching this movie, I have learned how to view and respond to those who have wronged me. From just watching this movie, I’ve already experienced first-hand the power of forgiveness, although most of us have not experienced an offense as great as murder, but each one of us has at least experience some level of loss at another person’s hand. This particular story secretly suggested people to call for justice instead of anger, to bring love, the word of God and forgiveness. I believe the message that Waodani wanted us to received and wanted to impact on each individual of us is that we should open up our mind and accept more than we could receive, and open our heart to bring in the beauty of God’s love and God’s law that created our lives.
I don't attend any church and have no religious beliefs. However, I think it's a great thing anytime religion can be used to help or guide people. The Waodani tribe lived by a rule of "spear or be speared". They had no concern for others people's lives, but that changed shortly after being visited by five missionaries.

Before seeing the movie I wondered what the five men had done to defend themselves against the tribe before they were speared. I was shocked to hear that they had guns but did not use them. It took an enormous amount of faith for them to sacrifice their lives because "they were ready to go to heaven, and the tribesmen were not". Then when there bodies were retrieved there was no retaliation against the tribe.

Instead of retaliating some of those who were related to the victims went and lived with the tribe. They taught them their faith and brought the homicide rate down dramatically. They formed friendships with the tribe and some became so close that they were considered family. One of the most interesting parts to me was to see the grandson of one of the missionaries bring one his grandfathers murderers to his graduation. He thought of him as a grandfather, and I sat there stunned for a few moments when I realized the strength of the relationship that they had.

The faith and religion of the missionaries and their families has shaped them into amazing people. I think many Americans today would seek revenge for what happened, but they were able to befriend the tribe and help them change their lives. Everyone in the tribe became better people and it's because of what religion taught them. It's unfortunate that movies like this aren't advertised much and therefore not seen by many people because it can teach people a lot.
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1/30/2006

The movie "Beyond the Gates" is telling a story about the group of Indian who lives in Ecuador inside the jungle, and the crimes that they use to do it with another people (spear them). Five guys with their families decided to go to Ecuador as mission trip to convince the weird Indian that somebody on the earth care about them and want to help them. They made a yellow plane out of wood, and they flew to the jungle where the Indian lives; their beautiful lives with the most dangerous animals and snakes ever. After the got there they met couple of the Indian and promised them with a trip in the plane and get them better life, but on Monday the leader of the Indian tripe heard about the white foreign guys and decided to spear them as every body else. After these guys got speared and died, the people, the friends, even the news where these five guys (missioners) came from where so mad at the isolated tribes, and the sent group of investigators to investigate the crimes, and how the missioners got speared. Elizabeth Elliot which is the wife of one of these guys went to the Indian to live with them, and take them to the modern life in Miami which is really did, and the son of one of the guys that got speared decided to do the same with his father's killers. Actually "Beyond the gate" is Avery effected story tells everybody who watches it to take second and think of the opposite fighting between the brave people who volunteered themselves for getting better life to the Indian, and the isolated tribes who didn't understand them and speared them. I liked the movie, but I don't think that I will ever go to Ecuador Dusty because I'm kind scarred to get speared.
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January 30, 2006  
Beyond the Gates of Splendor

While I sat in the turtle building and watched this movie, I thought nothing of it, I had seen good people die in the movie theater or on T.V. After I had some time to think back on “Beyond the Gates of Splendor” it really hit me. It was amazing how much love, faith, trust and courage these missionaries had. Going way out of their way to help improve the lives of some obscure violent tribe, they fell victim to the tribe’s violent temper. And yet the ones closest to the now deceased missionaries took it upon themselves to finish what had been started. They would be living with the very same people that had murdered their loved ones. Not only did this second group of missionaries risk their lives to go live with the killers of their loved ones, they actually ended with wonderful long lasting meaningful relationships. They had a second family. Transforming the tribe from a bunch of angry killers into kind and peaceful community through the desire to spread the word and love of God is astounding. Yes, people are compelled to do selfless acts without knowing God. But just the Christian church alone creates a community for infectious citizens to spread the word of God thus spreading not only their beliefs but the joy, and well almost if not all other good things knowing God will make one feel. It does strike me as a little scary and hard to comprehend as well as pretty cool, that people all over the world can live for and through something they know so little about, something that is not even visible. It makes me wonder if there were no links back to the time of Jesus, what life would be like today. More over I think that these missionaries are truly what it means to be human and I wish that one day we would all be as human.