

"The Karate Kid"

Overview: The Karate Kid is a 2010 martial arts remake of the 1984 film of the same name. The plot concerns a 12-year-old boy (Dre Parker) from Detroit who moves to China with his mother and incurs the wrath of the neighborhood bully. He establishes an unlikely ally in the aging maintenance man, Mr. Han, a kung fu master who teaches him the secrets to self-defense. This movie is probably not appropriate for very young children. The rating is PG, for bullying, martial arts action violence and some mild language.

Choose questions that might best fit your family, or the gathering of people discussing the movie.

- Have you ever gone to a new school where you didn't know anybody? What was that like for you?
- What did Dre lose by moving to China? What did he gain?
- What were the differences or similarities you saw in the two teachers, Mr. Han and Master Li?
- Which teacher would you rather study with and why?
- What was the motto of Master Li? How did you see his students living out the third part of their team motto, "show no mercy"?
- What did Mr. Han keep having Dre do, to practice? Why did he have him practice this move over and over?
- Mr. Han was very sad. What had happened in his life to make him sad?
- How did Dre and Mr. Han fill a need each of them had? What did they give to the other?
- What was the most important thing Dre learned from Mr. Han?
- Mei Ying and Dre made promises to each other. What were those promises? Have you ever made a "pinkie promise" with anyone? Did you keep the promise?
- Why did Dre not want to give up, in the last round of the tournament? What motivated him?
- When have you been very scared? How did you get over being scared?
- Have you ever been scared of someone at school or in your neighborhood? How did you deal with that person/situation?
- What did Master Li's team do, at the very end of the movie, to Mr. Han? Why would they have honored him, rather than their own teacher?
- When have you had to work very hard to learn something? What were you learning or learning to do? What was your motivation?
- Is discipline and practice something that comes easily to people? Is it worth all the time and effort?
- Where is China? Can you find it on a map? What's the forbidden city and the Great Wall?
- Do you know any words in another language?
- Have you ever had to concentrate and focus very hard on something? What was it?
- Would you ever like to learn karate or martial arts? Why/why not?
- Is it alright to hurt someone else, to win? Why/why not?
- Mr. Han was teaching Dre because he wanted to help him. Master Li wanted his students to win to give him fame. Which teacher's way was more like Jesus might teach us?