



St. John Neumann Catholic Community Racial Justice Ministry

On Watching *Black Panther*: Questions to Consider

Movies like *Black Panther*, part of the Marvel universe of films, are often dismissed as pure entertainment. Yet *Black Panther*, like other Marvel films, has a moral center. *Black Panther* goes beyond the simple Good vs. Evil premise that is often assigned to these films.

Black Panther's story is built on important issues of race, economic and social inequality, and alternatives to address those issues.

As you prepare to watch with your family, or as you reflect on the film you have just seen together, we encourage you to think about these questions:

1. What scenes early in the film (and at its end) provide you with a look at life and home, of social and economic struggles and frustrations? What are those conditions? Who is being affected by them?
2. What are ways the issues mentioned in the previous question can be addressed? Where and how do you see these issues being addressed in the film?
3. The struggle between hero and villain is fierce. What compels these characters to act as they do?
4. Where/when do you see a change in the hero's attitude? What are the factors leading to this change?
5. Why do you think *Black Panther* is considered by many as a breakthrough film for people of color?