



GEEKS UNDER GRACE
WWW.GEEKSUNDERGRACE.COM

Transformers: The Last Knight (2017) | THE POWER OF INFLUENCE | BIBLE STUDY

Facilitator Note: We encourage facilitators to take this Bible study and expound on it throughout the week, allowing it to be a springboard for deeper conversations and personal meditation.

PRESS START

Love them or hate them, Transformers films are wildly divisive. Few will argue these giant robot flicks are anywhere close to perfect, but many see them as mindless fun. As a group, let's start out by discussing how we feel about the series, which is now on its fifth film. **Do you look forward to more Transformers movies in the future? Which has been your favorite/least favorite? Why is that? Were the "Arthurian elements" in *Transformers: The Last Knight* an improvement toward making it a standout for the series?**

EQUIP

The last film, *Transformers: Age of Extinction*, left our main Autobot hero, Optimus Prime, rocketing back through space to the Transformers' homeworld, Cybertron. In *Transformers: The Last Knight*, He arrives on a dying planet; almost immediately, he is ensnared by the evil scheme of Quintessa, who plans to go to Earth (known as Unicron amongst the Transformers) and drain it so that Cybertron can be reborn. Quintessa "marks" Prime, and he is renamed Nemesis Prime.

What is most surprising about this plot point is that Optimus Prime has been the "hero" throughout the series--a character who is a natural leader and honorable in the fight against the Decepticons. Yet, in moments, under the influence of Quintessa, his entire outlook changes; friends become enemies, and every principle he stands on is thrown aside. He is almost possessed by this enemy force, and it seems that there is little hope for him of turning back.

As Christians, we need to be careful in realizing that the power and influence of Christ must be sought after; when we invite and allow bad influences back into our lives, they can take us places Christ wouldn't want us to go. Many have "fallen away" on countless occasions when tempted. Why is that? It isn't because Christ is any less powerful. Rather, that they have set aside His lead and pursued worldly things, welcoming sinful influences back into their lives. This is devastating not only for the sinner, but also for those around them. In the film, Earth will long bear the scars of Optimus bringing Cybertron to the planet. Likewise, the Bible shows us this:

Galatians 6:7-8 (NKJV) ⁷ *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.* ⁸ *For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.*

Ephesians 4:17-19 (NKJV) ¹⁷ *This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,* ¹⁸ *having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;* ¹⁹ *who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.*

LEVEL UP

Bear in mind: Nemesis Prime heads to Earth (Unicron) with what has been shown to him as the "right thing to do." He is going to make a new home for his kind, which could put an end to the age-old battles of the Autobots and Decepticons. In this mission, he is convinced to turn on his friends (his family, really), but how did he come to this point? Primarily (pun not intended), because he was alone and open to negative influences. This issue is all too common for believers today. Many go it alone, abandoning their study of the Word and the mutual encouragement of other believers through church. Often, they cast God's leadership through the Holy Spirit aside. On his own, Optimus falls prey to bad influences, and believers can too.

1 Corinthians 15:33-34 (NKJV) ³³ *Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."* ³⁴ *Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.*

The ending of **v.34** is key: believers should know better. There are places you shouldn't go and things you just shouldn't do. We should know the Bible and be tight enough in fellowship and with our convictions to not fall back into corrupt living. Many are unsaved; they don't possess the Holy Spirit to lead them. We do, so when we don't follow it, we are asking for trouble.

MOD

Ask: Optimus is ultimately redirected to a noble path, only through the influence of Bumblebee after their fight. **Have you ever had a friend help you get off the wrong path? Have you ever been that friend for someone else?**

Sometimes when a person knows that they shouldn't be engaging in certain behaviors or placing themselves in certain environments, the only thing that can get them to reconsider and make a change is the good example of another. Bumblebee "breaking his silence" to speak to Optimus with his true voice refocuses Optimus and allows him to see the error of his ways. Endeavor to find someone who is struggling that you can influence for Christ this week.

Ask: What can you do to influence another who is struggling, while staying aware of the possible dangers their influence could have on you?

Serious consideration should be given here. Many find themselves doing terrible things, and they often have some defensible reason for doing so. We should seek to reach those struggling, while guarding our own hearts, as well.

PRAY

Does anyone know of someone in the midst of deep struggles that we need to pray for today? In addition to our individual needs, let's pray for strength for ourselves as we attempt to reach those who are struggling.

THE NEXT LEVEL

Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV) ¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Author: Colby Bryant | Editor: Casey Covel

These Bible Studies are completely free for you to print and use. They are funded by the gracious donations from people like you. If you are interested in donating, please check out WWW.PATREON.COM/GEEKSUNDERGRACE for more information. Your contribution helps us to further our mission to disciple Christians through pop culture and to tell the "geek" world that they deserve Christ just as much as the rest of us. Thank you for your consideration.

New King James Version (NKJV), Scripture taken from the New King James Version®.
Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.