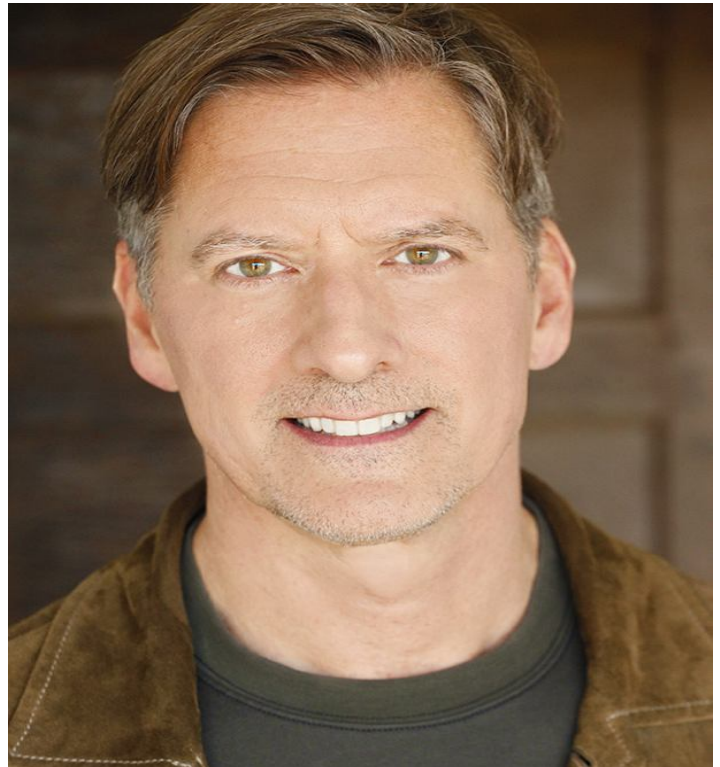


Producer's Scoop:

David Temple Provides *Inside Look At His FAMILY THRILLER Chasing Grace*

By Kerry Nenn



"To forgive is to set a prisoner free - and discover that the prisoner was you." - Lewis B. Smedes

These words open David Temple's premier film, Chasing Grace. From the moment these words appear on screen, to the rolling of the closing credits, this theme permeates the script. Forgiveness.

Temple holds nothing back in this message. The story is gritty, messy, dark. It's real. The characters aren't superheroes whose perfection will amaze audiences. They represent all of us – imperfect beings striving in imperfect ways to cope with the sin in us and around us.

Incorporating the parable of the prodigal son from a unique perspective, the movie shares one family's struggle to find grace.

The Premise:

When tragedy threatens to shatter the relationships of a pastor's family, grace is the only thing that can save them. But, can they forgive each other, and, more importantly, themselves, for what has happened?

As each member of the Matheson family wrestles with their own guilt, bitterness, and hidden sins, viewers experience with them the personal pain

endured on a journey toward grace.

The Back Story:

Adapted from Temple's novel, *Discovering Grace*, the story is based on real life events Temple experienced growing up as a preacher's kid in small town America.

The Reviews:

Chasing Grace received 4 out of 5 Doves from the Dove Organization, and was awarded their Faith Friendly 12+ Seal.

The Scoop:

In an interview with Faith Filled Family Magazine, Temple offered insights into the making of the film, its message, and his hopes for its impact.

What inspired you to create this film?

I'm a story teller, first and foremost. I wanted to tell the story of a family whose life appears to be perfect on the outside but is perfectly rough around the edges like everyone else.

In 2009, I wrote the book, loosely based on my life. Growing up as a preacher's kid, you live in a fish bowl. Life is black and white. You don't have any need for grey. This is how the premise came along to tell the story of a pastor who lives in a world of

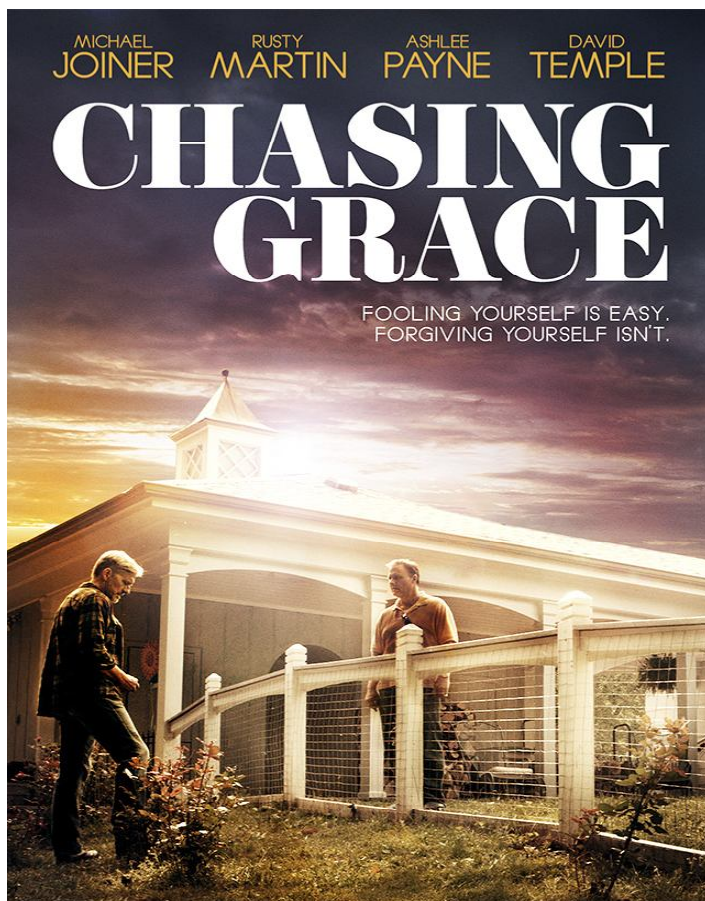
black and white and uses the “grey in-between” to his advantage.

I knew to make this into a movie would take a lot of different pieces, but I’m a tenacious person. I keep going until I get what I want. I turned the novel into a screenplay, raised money, put a crew together, and the rest is history. It has been well worth the effort. When you get to see your story, six years later, on the huge screen, with actors speaking your words - it doesn’t get any better.

What do you hope to be the biggest takeaway for viewers?

I hope people will be entertained, and enjoy what I’m calling a family thriller. While it is a faith-based story, it has a thriller element to it. It’s gritty and real and rough around the edges like life is. I hope people will walk away with enjoyment, but also perhaps reconsider and re-examine forgiveness.

I’m surprised at the amount of people who don’t really know what grace is. It’s a gift someone gives to someone when they may not deserve it. I love to be able to say to someone “you are so gracious.” That is such a beautiful compliment we don’t get to hear enough.



What was the most challenging aspect of making this film?

Day one. My mind immediately flashes back to day one of filming. It was Memorial Day weekend, and we were shooting a scene that included most of the actors on set along with about 150 extras, plus multiple locations and some pretty intense summer heat. Trying to maneuver locations and people, meet deadlines, and cover multiple pages of script in one day was a huge challenge. But, we got it done, and shot the entire film in 13 days.

This is due to a phenomenal cast and crew. My actors, including Michael Joiner, who also played the lead in The Grace Card, demonstrated amazing talent, going beyond the call of duty. My Director of Photography, Brandon Riley, did a remarkable job capturing the vista of the surrounding mountains, making the beautiful setting another character in the movie. I could not be happier with the results from this exceptional crew. I believe the film is going to show the amount of talent brought to the table.

The other greatest challenge is to find a distributor who believes in your film. Being an independent filmmaker makes resources limited. You need to find a distributor who can take it out to market so that larger numbers of people can see it. If you don’t, then you’ve just made a very expensive home movie.

How does this movie differ from other Christian films?

It is darker. The tone is darker. The subject matter is darker. It does not have unicorns or rainbows. It does not get tied up with a pretty little bow. It is very gritty and real. It’s a family thriller.

I know from growing up in a preacher’s family that everyone thinks everything is perfect, neat and tidy. This movie will show you that we all have our secrets we are trying to hide.

I think the highest compliment I’ve been paid so far is “They took what a lot of people think of as goody two shoes and made it real.” This is exactly what I was hoping for.

You play the pastor’s brother, Carter, in the

film. What was it like to play this character?

In some ways, it was easy because in some ways he is an amalgamation of me. I identified with him because he's an interesting person - a man's man, an outsider, a loner. He marches to the beat of his own drum. Yet, the one thing he wants more than anything is to be part of the family, on the inside, and when tragedy happens, the family turns his back on him.

He is an interesting and fun character to play. He is a Jack Reacher type, sort of an underdog, and readers have loved him. The response to him has been so great that I spun him off into his own story, Lucky Strikes, which has sold well on Amazon. I am already working on a sequel to that novel.

Is there a sequel to Chasing Grace in the making?

The follow-up novel, Stealing Hope, was published in 2013. It takes place one year later, and continues to follow the Matheson family. It tells how the family continues to struggle one year later, but they are going on with life. It is an interesting observation of how they adapt. The spotlight on certain characters in the first novel dims and shines greater on others.

The setting of the novel is a parallel road trip. Two stories are told at the same time, taking place in the mountains of North Carolina and ending up in Key West. This second story is still a family thriller, because inside the story, Carter, who is on a mission, is in search of something.

My ultimate dream is to get an agent and some day see this book on screen as well.

Where can our readers view Chasing Grace?

Distribution contract details are still in the making for wide release of the film, including theaters, bookstores, and on-demand sources. Currently, I can bring it to your home town if requested.

If you would like to bring Chasing Grace to your local theater or church, contact david@catalystpictures.com.

For more information and to meet the rest of the cast, visit www.ChasingGraceMovie.com.

*All pictures used with expressed consent of David Temple.