

Things to think about as you watch Onward...

*What does the title Onward mean to you?

*How do the members of the Lightfoot family interact with each other? What similarities and differences do you see? Do you recognize any themes you see within your own family?

*The relationship between Ian and Barley is dynamic, particularly in respect to their different relationships with their dad. Do you feel your grief experience is vastly different from your family members? In what way?

*Think about Manticore and her personal transformation in the film; does the idea of transformation resonate with you? How so?

*Which character do you feel most like? Do you wish to amplify traits of other characters within your own life? If so, which ones?

*If you could bring your special person back for one day, would you? What would you want to say? What would you do together? Would you want one on one time or family time or both?

*There are many realizations on behalf of the characters in the film. Some profound, some seemingly mundane. What things have you realized as a result of your grief? What relationships have changed or grown since your special person died?

*The Sweatshirt carries great meaning for Ian. Do you have something special of your loved one that you wear or hold dearly? Does it too hold stories for you or others?

*Hope appears throughout the story. Where do you find hope in your grief? How will you carry that hope Onward?

Take time as a family to discuss these ideas either on the ride home or throughout the rest of the week. If you'd like to further expand on your thoughts, use a journal (individual or family) to document your answers and feelings. You can even make a new family tradition to watch the film each year and see how your thoughts/feelings/responses have transformed over time!

NEWSONG

CENTER for GRIEVING CHILDREN

A program of Hospice of the Valley