

# SUNSHINE (MA)

## Discussion starters

1. What is the relationship of science and faith? What does faith tell us (or not tell us) about science? What does science tell us (or not tell us) about faith?
2. This is a very timely film considering current thinking on global warming. This film suggests that individuals can make a difference — do you agree or disagree?
3. If an extinction-level event such as the sun dying did threaten mankind's survival, would it be "playing God" or "challenging God" to seek to reverse it? Why or why not?
4. What do you think of the various moral conundrums faced by the characters in the film regarding whether to divert their mission or what to do about oxygen consumption? With the fate of the human race at stake, is anything permissible? Was Cassie right to withhold her vote if doing so could mean the end of life on Earth? Was Mace right to ignore her vote?



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5. *Sunshine* seems like the spiritual successor to *Alien*. The sun is a major character in the film — what do you think the sun represents to the different crewmates?

## Directors Notes: Danny Boyle

“Traveling to the sun is a great concept visually, but also very interesting Psychologically. There is the question about what happens to your mind when you meet the creator of all things in the universe, which for some people is a spiritual, religious idea, and for other people is a purely scientific idea. We are all made up of particles of exploded star, so what would it be like to get close to the sun, the star from which all the life in our solar system comes from? I thought it would be a huge mental challenge to try and capture that.”