#### Theology and Film: A Practice in Listening

C.S. Lewis wrote, “The first demand any work of art makes upon us is surrender. Look. Listen. Receive. Get yourself out of the way. (There is no good asking first whether the work before you deserves such a surrender, for until you have surrendered you cannot possibly find out.)” In this session we will consider a few ways film helps us practice this listening well, this surrender. We will watch a couple of short films together and discuss how to approach film, and art and one another, with a posture of receptivity.

**Tim Basselin** is Assistant Professor of Media Arts and Worship at one of the largest seminaries in the world: Dallas Theological Seminary. He teaches classes on the intersection of theology and culture, including classes on film, art, literature, and disability. He is also the director of the Media Arts apprenticeship program at DTS and enjoys collaborating with his students. He serves on the editorial board for Christian Scholar’s Review. He and his wife, Robin, have four children and enjoy travelling and camping.

1. Introduction
2. Epistemological Therapy
   1. The need for epistemological therapy
   2. Elements of a covenantal epistemology
   3. Film and epistemology
3. Short Films
   1. Alike <https://vimeo.com/194276412> (7min)
      1. Discussion
         1. Music
         2. Color
         3. Other
   2. Fox and the Whale <https://vimeo.com/237551523> (12min)
      1. Discussion
         1. Tone/atmosphere
         2. Meaning

***Suggested Readings:***

Esther Meek *A Little Manual for Knowing*