

The GoodList

Choosing and Using Movies from the Lord's Side of the Line

Compiled by Steven K. Jones

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR MAKING WISE MEDIA CHOICES

"All safety, all righteousness, all happiness are on the Lord's side of the line . . . All that enriches our lives and prepares us for eternal joy is on the Lord's side of the line." (George Albert Smith, Conference Report, Oct. 1949, 5-6)

Learn to Discern

Teach the difference. And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and the profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. (Ezekiel 44:23)

Live well within the area of good. "To your right are all the good things that can be done in life. The further to your right, the better they are. To the left are all the wrong things that can be done. The further to the left, the worse they are. In the middle, it is difficult to discern between what is good and what is bad. This middle area is where Satan works with righteous people, the twilight zone where you cannot clearly discern what is good and what is bad. It is easy to become confused here. Live well within the wonderful area of good the Lord has defined. If you are not sure whether something is appropriate to look at, listen to, to think about, or to do, then avoid it." (Richard G. Scott, "Do What is Right," CES Young Adult Fireside, 3 Mar 1996)

Touch not the unclean thing. "And now I say unto you, all you that are desirous to follow the voice of the good shepherd, come ye out of the wicked, and be ye separate, and touch not their unclean things." (Alma 5:57)

Use "Scripture Based" Rating Systems

Using these guidelines instead of the world's could dramatically improve our media choices.

The way to judge. "Wherefore I show unto you the way to judge, for every thing which *inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ*, is sent forth by the power of Christ; wherefore ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of God." [italics added] (Moroni 7:16)

We seek after these things. "If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things. (Articles of Faith 1:13)

For the strength of youth. "While much entertainment is good, some of it can lead you away from righteous living. Offensive material is often found in concerts, web sites, movies, music, videocassettes, DVD's, books, magazines, pictures, and other media. Satan uses such entertainment to deceive you by making what is wrong and evil look normal and exciting. It can lead you into thinking that everyone is doing things that are wrong. Do not attend, view, or participate in entertainment that is vulgar, immoral, violent, or pornographic in any way. Do not participate in any entertainment that in any way presents immorality or violent behavior as acceptable." (*For the Strength of Youth*, 17.)

Apply the Practices of Media Wise Parents

1. Hold family councils to decide what your media standards are going to be.
2. Spend enough quality time with your children that (you) are the main influence in their lives.
3. Make good media choices yourself and set the example.
4. Limit the amount of time your children watch TV or play video games or use the Internet.
5. Use Internet filters.
6. Locate computers and TVs in much used common rooms.
7. Take time to watch appropriate media with your children and discuss with them how to make choices that will uplift and build rather than degrade and destroy.

(Adapted from: "Let our voices be heard," Russell M. Ballard, Ensign, Nov. 2003)

Use "Keys" to Unlock Understanding

Key quotes, ideas, principles, and scriptures are provided for most of the movies on the list. These "keys" unlock the principal messages in the films and provide a basis for discussing the stories together as a family.

Use them before watching a film to give viewers something to "look for."

Example: In the movie, *Captains Courageous*, Harvey's father gives him forty dollars for spending money. Working on a fishing boat for three months Harvey earns nine dollars. Look for the reason that the nine dollars he earned meant so much more to him than the forty-dollar allowance.

Ask questions or make relevant comments during the movie.

Example: In the movie, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, a neighbor boy eating with the family pours syrup all over his food. How should we treat people who do things differently than us?

After the movie start a discussion by quoting key quotes or asking good questions.

Example: Think of a scriptural character that had the kind of courage that Father O'Flaherty demonstrated in *The Scarlet and the Black*. (Possible answers: Captain Moroni, David, Nephi, or others.) Where does that kind of courage come from? (Relying on the Lord for strength).

Read More About It

Use a search engine on the Internet to find additional details or information.

Example: Alvin York's diary gives inspiring details about how a power greater than man helped him win the battle.

Go to the library or search online for the books on which the movie was based.

Examples: Ben Hur, A Christmas Carol, The Little Woman, biography of Gladys Aylward (*Inn of the Sixth Happiness*), I am David, Summer of the Monkeys, To Kill a Mockingbird, and so forth.

User Friendly Web Sites

A wealth of information is found on the Internet.

Internet Movie Database (IMDb.com) By far the most comprehensive database anywhere. Links found on the left-hand side of the home page contain insightful information: User Comments, User Ratings, Memorable Quotes, and especially, External Reviews, which serve as links to the following sites:

Decent Films (decentfilms.com) Movies reviewed from a moral standpoint. Rates them on recommendability, artistic and entertainment value, moral and spiritual value, and audience.

Christian Spotlight at the Movies (Best reached from IMDb, External Reviews) Gives helpful reviews and moral guidelines. Occasionally reviews are not in harmony with Church standards.

Screen It! (Best reached from IMDb, External Reviews) Reviews with detailed information on fifteen categories of objectionable material (violence, sex, profanity, imitative behavior, disrespectful attitudes, and so forth).

We Seek After these Things

Many uplifting movies cannot be found in the theaters, TV and some video rental chains.

Where to look:

Public Libraries. The best and least expensive source of movie classics.

Online. Some of the classics are only found online: Made for TV movies such as *Heidi* (1993), *Les Miserables* (1978), *Four Feathers* (1977), and *The Scarlet and the Black*;

Old classics such as *The Life of Emile Zola* (1937), *Madame Curie* (1943), *Random Harvest* (1942), and *Gentlemen's Agreement* (1947).

Video Rental Stores. Look for the ones with a Classic Movie section and those who offer edited versions without objectionable elements.

Department/Book/Media Stores. More and more classics are showing up on the shelves. The key to obtaining them lies in knowing which of them are classics.

Remember the Promises

In the wayward world in which we live, promises of safety, righteousness, happiness, enrichment, and joy are worth pondering. Keeping them foremost in our minds and hearts supplies the motivation to make the necessary effort to both find and use uplifting media.

"And now, if (we) know these things, happy are (we) if we do them." (John 13:17)

The GoodList

Classic movies that uplift and inspire

Anne of Green Gables (1985 TV) Drama

Director: Kevin Sullivan. Cast: Megan Follows, Colleen Dewhurst, Richard Farnsworth.

Story: An endearing story of a spirited orphan raised by a down-to-earth spinster and her brother.

Quote: Anne: And I promise I'll never do it again.

That's the one good thing about me. I never do the same wrong thing twice.

Key Idea: Showcases the great worth of imagination, education, determination, friendship, family values, and achieving personal dreams.

Color 199 min. VHS/DVD

Babette's Feast (1987) Drama.

Director: Gabriel Axel. Cast: Stephane Audran, Brigitte Federspiel, Bodil Kjer, Jarl Kulle.

Story: A religious group in a Danish fishing village awakens to the joys of living through the artistry and sacrifice of their servant and cook.

Scripture: "Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone." (Matt. 7:9)

Key Idea: Misconstrued religious ideas and practices can turn the joy of the gospel (the bread of life) into lifeless traditions (a stone).

Color 102 min. VHS/DVD

Bambi (1942) Disney Animated Classic.

Director: David Hand.

Story: This is the story of a young fawn growing up, making friends, learning about nature and people.

Quote: Mrs. Rabbit: What did your father tell you this morning? Thumper: If you can't say something nice don't say nothin' at all.

Key Idea: This film offers lessons in overcoming tragedy, in the terrible consequences of negligence with fire, and in unnecessary violence against animals. Color 70 min. VHS/DVD

Ben Hur (1959) Adventure/Religious Classic.

Director: William Wyler. Cast: Charlton Heston, Jack Hawkins, Haya Harareet, Stephen Boyd.

Story: A Jewish prince (Ben Hur) is sent to the gallows by his friend (Massala) yet finds his way to Christ and fulfillment. Massala rises to a position of wealth and power in the Roman army yet wastes his life in pride, greed, and indulgence.

Quote: Roman Commander: We keep you alive to serve this ship. So row well and live.

Key Idea: The two main characters in this film provide a powerful contrast between giving loyalty to Christ or loyalty to Caesar, and the consequences of those loyalties. Color 212 min. VHS/DVD

Best Two Years, The (2003) Religious Drama

Director: Scott S. Anderson. Cast: K.C. Clyde, Kirby Heyborne, David Nibley, Cameron Hopkin, Scott Christopher.

Story: Mormon missionaries serving in Holland discover the personal meaning of their service as they strive to deliver the gospel message to others.

Key Idea: Missionary service requires preparation, dedication, commitment, and a willingness to learn to work with others. This film could become a part of preparing youth to understand some of the real demands and challenges of missionary service.

Color 112 min. VHS/DVD

Bishop's Wife, The (1947) Christmas Classic.

Director: Henry Koster.

Cast: David Niven, Cary Grant, Loretta Young.

Story: An angel is assigned to a Bishop struggling to understand his true priorities in life: putting marriage, family, and Christian service above the building of a cathedral.

Quote: Dudley to Julia: There are few people who know the secret of making heaven on earth. You are one of those rare people.

Key Idea: How to put the Savior on our Christmas list and offer Him the shining gifts He cherishes.

Black & White 100 min. VHS/DVD

Born Free (1966) Family Drama.

Director: James Hill.

Cast: Virginia McKenna, Bill Travers.

Story: True life account of a dedicated effort to return a tame lion to the wilds.

Key Idea: Shows the power and the necessity of tough, consistent love. Color 95 min. VHS/DVD

Boy's Town (1938) Drama.

Director: Norman Taurog.

Cast: Spencer Tracy, Mickey Rooney, Henry Hull.

Story: Dramatizes the beginning days of Father O'Flannigan's home for boys.

Key Quote: Father O'Flannigan: There's no such thing as a bad boy.

Black & White 96 min. VHS/DVD

Brian's Song (1971 TV) Sports Drama.

Director: Buzz Kulik.

Cast: James Caan, Billie Dee Williams, Jack Warden.

Story: The story of loyalty and friendship between two professional football players and their courage to face together the terminal illness of one of them.

Quote: Gayle Sayers: I love Brian Piccolo. And tonight, when you hit your knees, please ask God to love him. Color 73 min. VHS/DVD

Capt. Horatio Hornblower (1951) Adventure

Director: Raoul Walsh.

Cast: Gregory Peck, Virginia Mayo.

Story: Capt. Hornblower of the British Navy is sent on a mission to the pacific coast of Latin America.

Key Idea: Courage, daring, and quick thinking help him turn disaster to triumph.
Color 117 min. VHS

Captains Courageous (1937) Family Classic.
Director: Victor Fleming. Cast: Spencer Tracy, Freddie Bartholomew, Lionel Barrymore.

Story: A spoiled rich kid has a change of heart when compelled to work on a fishing boat and learn about life the hard way.

Quote: Captain to Harvey's Father: You're still the boy's dad. A boy's never too old not to need a dad. You just hold the oars out to him. Someday he's going to lay into it and pull you right into his heart.

Key Idea: Highlights what should be the true relationship of fathers and sons, as well as the value of honesty, hard work, and integrity.
Black & White 116 min. VHS/DVD

Chariots of Fire (1981) Religious Drama.
Director: Hugh Hudson. Cast: Nicholas Farrell, Nigel Havers, Ian Charleson, Ben Cross.

Story: Portrayal of athletes preparing for and competing in the Olympics; one man's striking example of putting God before anything else and competing for the joy of it; also, the empty success which follows obsessive ambition.

Key Quote: Eric Liddell: Where does the power come from to see the race to the end—from within.

Key scripture: Even the youths shall fail and be weary. . . ; but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.

Color 123 min. VHS/DVD

Charlotte's Web (1973) Family/Animated.
Director: Charles A. Nichols, Iwao Takamoto.

Story: A spider with a flare for promotion pledges to save a young pig from slaughter. How friendship and creativity generate solutions to the challenges of life and bring us everyday joy and fulfillment.

Key Quote: Goose: How about terrific, terrific, terrific? Charlotte: Cut that down to one terrific and it will do nicely. I think terrific might impress him (the farmer). Wilbur: But Charlotte, I'm not terrific.

Charlotte: You're terrific as far as I'm concerned.
Color 94 min. VHS/DVD

Charly (2003) Romance/Drama
Director: Adam Thomas Anderegg

Cast: Jeremy Elliott, Randy King, Heather Beers.

Story: A returned missionary's life upends when he falls in love with a young woman from a very different background than his. She joins the Church but a serious obstacle arises when she reveals part of her life before becoming a member.

Key Idea: Repentance applies to everyone who comes to the Lord in faith. Preconceived notions of what kind of person we will or will not marry can

stand in the way of forgiveness, tolerance, and love.
Color 103 min. DVD

Chosen, The (1981) Family Drama.

Director: Jeremy Paul Kagan. Cast: Maximilian Schell, Rod Steiger, Robby Benson, Barry Miller.

Story: The story of two friends whose Jewish fathers raise them in strikingly different manners.

Key Idea: This movie can become a great discussion starter on purposeful ways to give direction to children. Color 108 min. VHS/DVD

A Christmas Carol a.k.a. **Scrooge** (1951)

Christmas Classic. Director: Brian Desmond Hurst. Cast: Alastair Sim, Mervyn Johns.

Story: A model of how a visit from three spirits of Christmas give Scrooge the courage to change his life, and learn to keep Christmas all year long.

Key Quote: Jacob Marley: I wear the chain I forged in life! I made it link by link and yard by yard! . . . By my own free will, I wore it! In life, my spirit never rose beyond the limits of our money-changing holes! Now I am doomed to wander without rest or peace, incessant torture and remorse! Ebenezer: But you were a good man of business, Jacob! Jacob Marley: BUSINESS? Mankind was my business! Their common welfare was my business!

Key Scripture: Compare with Alma 5 and how knowledge of the past, present and future can foster change. "If you have felt to sing the song of redeeming love, can ye feel so now?" (Alma 5:26)
Black & White 86 min. VHS

Day the Earth Stood Still, The (1951) Sci-Fi.

Director: Robert Wise.

Cast: Michael Rennie, Patricia Neal, Sam Jaffe.

Story: A visitor from outer space brings a profound and timely message to earth that they must learn to live peacefully in the universe or be destroyed. For a world prone to violence this is a hard lesson.

Key Quote: Clatu: I am leaving soon and you will forgive me if I speak bluntly . . . there must be security for all or no one is secure. This does not mean giving up any freedom except the freedom to act irresponsibly. Black & White 92 min. VHS/DVD

Dog of Flanders (1999) Family Drama.

Director: Kevin Brodie.

Cast: Jack Warden, Jon Voight, Cheryl Ladd.

Story: An orphan boy meets life cheerfully buoyed by the love of his grandfather, the companionship of his dog, and the help of his mentor.

Key Quote: Nello: Ever since my mother died I've wondered where she went. Grandfather: Maybe she is one of those bright stars that come out every night. Nello: I hope so. It wouldn't be right if the spirits of great men . . . and good people like my mother just didn't go on after they die. Grandfather: I'm sure you're right Nello, God is just too smart for that.

Key Idea: Raphael paintings of the Savior on the cross symbolize the power of redemption.

Color 100 min. VHS/DVD

Enchanted April (1992) Drama.

Director: Mike Newell Cast: Josie Lawrence, Miranda Richardson, Joan Plowright, Polly Walker, Alfred Molina, Jim Broadbent, Michael Kitchen

Story: How seven characters, living dreary lives of unfulfilled expectations, are born again through the everyday miracle of letting light and love into their heart and soul.

Key Quote: Lottie: The important thing is to have lots of love about. I used to measure and count it out. I wouldn't love my (husband) unless he loved me back exactly as much. The emptiness of it all.

Color 101 min. VHS/DVD

Farmer's Daughter, The (1947) Comedy.

Director: H.C. Potter. Cast: Loretta Young, Joseph Cotten, Ethyl Barrymore, Charles Bickford.

Story: A great example of how hard work, homespun values and honest candor help a Swedish farm girl make an impact on local/national government.

Key Idea: Illustrates how preparation precedes power. Black & White 97 min. VHS

Fiddler on the Roof (1971) Drama/Musical.

Director: Norman Jewison. Cast: Topol, Norma Crane, Molly Picon, Leonard Frey.

Story: Highlights the trials of a Jewish family under the strain of persecution in Russia, the power of religious traditions, the courage to create new ones.

Quote: Tevye: (talking to God) I know, I know. We are your chosen people. But, once in a while, can't you choose someone else?

Key Idea: Because of the power of their traditions, every one of them knew who he/she was and what God expected of him/her. Correct and incorrect traditions, and the consequences of each, form one of the central themes of the Book of Mormon.

Color 181 min. VHS/DVD

Field of Dreams (1989) Fantasy/Drama.

Director: Phil Alden Robinson. Cast: Kevin Costner, Amy Madigan, James Earl Jones.

Story: A local farmer in Iowa builds a baseball field and calls up Shoeless Joe Jackson and other baseball players from the past. He comes to terms with his own family troubles at the same time.

Quotes: If you build it he will come; Go the distance.

Viewer Guideline: Profanity

Color 107 min. VHS/DVD

Finding Nemo (2003) Adventure/Animation.

Directors: Andrew Stanton and Lee Unkrich. Voice cast: Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres.

Story: A small clownfish is caught by a diver and placed in an aquarium, setting the father of the young fish on a desperate course to find him.

Key Quote: Dory: Hey Mr. Grumpy Gills, when life gets you down do you wanna know what you gotta do? Marlin: No, I don't want to know.

Dory: Just keep swimming. Just keep swimming, swimming, swimming. What do we do? We swim.

Key Idea: Teaches the importance of trusting one another, being kind, and working together.

Color 100 min. VHS/DVD

Follow Me Boys (1966) Family Comedy/Drama.

Director: Norman Tokar. Cast: Fred MacMurray, Vera Miles, Lillian Gish, Kurt Russell.

Story: The new man in town is made scoutmaster. Romance and misadventure follow in a classic story of how to make men out of boys.

Key Idea: Caring adults who spend quality time with youth eventually harvest a valuable crop—responsible young adults ready to enter the outside world. Color 131 min. DVD

Four Feathers (1977 TV) Drama/Action/Romance.

Director: Don Sharp.

Cast: Beau Bridges, Jane Seymour.

Story: A young Englishman, branded by his family and friends as a coward, is driven to extreme lengths to prove otherwise.

Key Quote: Gen. Faversham: So he's out to regain his honor. There's still a spark in him. Ethne: He's a tormented man. We drove him away.

Gen. Faversham: I doubt if a woman could understand. Ethne: He came to each of us and we sent him away. His father and the woman he loved. It's our shame. Gen. Faversham: He was a soldier and there is a soldier's code. Ethne: Is there a father's code? Color 100 min. VHS/DVD

Friendly Persuasion (1956) Family Drama.

Director: William Wyler. Cast: Gary Cooper, Dorothy McGuire, Anthony Perkins, Richard Eyer.

Story: How a Quaker family deals with Civil War violence. A powerful study of upholding religious convictions faced with the injustice of war.

Key Quote: Jess Birdwell: I'm just his father, Eliza, not his conscience. A man's life ain't worth a hill of beans except he lives up to his own conscience.

Key Idea: The realities of life and the pull of our conscience requires us to make hard choices.

Color 137 min. VHS/DVD

Gandhi (1982) Historical Classic/Drama.

Director: Richard Attenborough. Cast: Ben Kingsley, Martin Sheen, Candice Bergen.

Story: Life of Mahatma Gandhi offers the world a profound look at the resolution of conflict without violence. This movie stirs up the noblest inclinations of how to live and serve unselfishly.

Key Quote: Gandhi: Whenever I despair, I remember that the way of truth and love has always won. There may be tyrants and murderers, and for a

time they may seem invincible, but in the end, they always fail. Think of it: always.

Viewer Guideline: Occasional profanity.

Color 188 min. VHS/DVD

Gentleman's Agreement (1947) Drama.

Director: Elia Kazan.

Cast: Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire.

Story: A magazine writer finds out what racial discrimination looks like and feels like. A probing look at the pride and prejudice of the well-to-do.

Key Idea: Reveals how subtle forms of racism can be as destructive as overt violence and persecution.

Black & White 118 min. VHS/DVD

Ghost and Mrs. Muir, The (1947) Romance.

Director: Joseph L. Mankiewicz.

Cast: Gene Tierney, Rex Harrison, George Sanders.

Story: An enchanting tale of how love transcends time. Great lead into a discussion of the true, revealed principles of eternal marriage.

Quote: Captain Gregg: You must make your own life amongst the living and, whether you meet fair winds or foul, find your own way to harbor in the end.

Black & White 104 min. VHS/DVD

Goodbye, Mr. Chips (1939) Drama Classic.

Director: Sam Wood. Cast: Robert Donat, Greer Garson, Terry Kilburn, Paul Henreid.

Story: An uplifting look at marriage and teaching. How marriage partners bring out the best in each other and how dedicated teachers can affect their students through their example of courage and love.

Key Quotes: Mr. Chips: Give a boy a sense of humor and a sense of proportion and he'll stand up to anything. Katherine: Never be afraid, Chips, that you can't be anything you make up your mind to be. As long as you believe in yourself you can go as far as you dream. Black & White 100 min. VHS/DVD

Great Escape, The (1963) Action Drama.

Director: John Sturges. Cast: Steve McQueen, James Garner, Richard Attenborough.

Story: Fact-based story of the cooperative efforts of prisoners to pull off a mass escape from POW camp.

Quote: Hilts: Wait a minute. You aren't seriously suggesting that if I get through the wire and case everything out there and don't get picked up . . . to turn myself in so you get the information you need?

Key Idea: Portrays the courage and the ingenuity of the prisoners, their love of freedom, cooperation, the humor and the horror of war.

Color 172 min. VHS/DVD

Greyfriars Bobby: The Story of a Dog (1961)

Director: Don Chaffey.

Cast: Donald Crisp, Gordon Jackson.

Story: When an old shepherd dies, his dog (Bobby) remains faithful and takes to sleeping on his master's grave. When Bobby is taken up for being unlicensed,

the children of Edinburgh and the Lord Provost decide what's to be done.

Key Idea: We can learn great lessons of friendship and loyalty from our animal friends.

Color 91 min. VHS/DVD

Hans Christian Andersen (1952) Musical.

Director: Charles Vidor.

Cast: Danny Kaye, Farley Granger.

Story: A cobbler finds fulfillment and spreads joy to children through his stories.

Key Idea: The power of stories, being true to yourself, and using your talents to bless others.

Quote: Hans: That's the nice thing about the world, my friend: people.

Color 112 min VHS/DVD

Heidi (1993 TV) Family Drama.

Director: Michael Rhodes.

Cast: Jason Robards, Patricia Neal, Jane Seymour, Noley Thornton.

Story: An orphan girl with a gift for lifting people's spirits finds meaning in her own life as she leads others to fulfillment.

Quote: Grandmother: You have a gift, Heidi, a way of touching people around you, helping them, bringing them joy. But it can be a curse too, because it can use you up until there is nothing left, nothing for yourself. You must promise, no matter how hard it is, to look deep inside and find out who you are.

Color 193 min. VHS

High Noon (1952) Classic Western Drama.

Director: Fred Zinnemann.

Cast: Gary Cooper, Grace Kelly, Lloyd Bridges, Lee Van Cleef.

Story: On everyone's best movie list. A tale of one man's courage and sense of duty, and his wife's sacrifice for his well being.

Quote: Amy: No, I won't be here when it's over. You're asking me to wait an hour to find out if I'm going to be a wife or a widow. I say it's too long to wait! I won't do it!

Black & White 85 min. VHS/DVD

Hobbit, The (1977 TV) Fantasy/Animation.

Director: Jules Bass/Arthur Rankin, Jr. Voice

Cast: John Huston, Otto Preminger, Orson Bean.

Story: A homebody demi-human in Middle Earth gets talked into joining a quest with a group of dwarves to recover their treasure from a dragon.

Quote: Thorin: (on his deathbed to Bilbo): Farewell, I wish to part in friendship, and to take back my words at the gate . . . You are no coward, my friend; I am sorry I so named you. If more of us valued your ways - food and cheer, above hoarded gold--it would be a merrier world. But sad or merry I must leave it now.

Key Idea: Humble people, fulfilling everyday duties as best they can, sometimes perform great acts of courage.
Color 77 min. VHS/DVD

Hoosiers (1986) Sports Drama.
Director: David Anspaugh.
Cast: Gene Hackman, Barbara Hershey, Dennis Hooper.
Story: A coach overcomes his past and a town overcomes intolerance in this fact-based story.
Quote: Coach Dale: If you put your effort and concentration into playing to your potential, to be the best that you can be, I don't care what the scoreboard says at the end of the game, in my book we're gonna be winners.
Viewer Guideline: Profanity.
Color 114 min. VHS/DVD

How Green Was My Valley (1941) Family Drama.
Director: John Ford Cast: Walter Pidgeon, Maureen O'Hara, Donald Crisp, Anna Lee, Roddy Mcdowall.
Story: Heartrending, thoroughly inspiring film of a coal mining family in Wales who value education and sustain their faith during trying conditions.
Key Quote: Mr. Gruffydd: But remember, with strength goes responsibility – to others and to yourselves. For you cannot conquer injustice with more injustice – only with justice and help from God.
Key Idea: Fathers who lead their family with faith prepare their wives and children to cope with and eventually overcome the world.
Black & White 118 min. VHS/DVD

I Am David (2003) Drama.
Director: Paul Feig.
Cast: Ben Tibber, James Caviezel, Joan Plowright.
Story: The story of a 12-year-old boy, David, who escapes a concentration camp with little more than a compass, a sealed letter, and a loaf of bread. David slowly loses his mistrust of humanity and begins to smile, share, trust, and ultimately, love.
Key Idea: It celebrates the unbreakable spirit of a child and his journey back into a world of caring.
Viewer Guideline: Wartime violence.
Color 90 min. VHS/DVD

I Remember Mama (1948) Drama Family Classic.
Director: George Stevens.
Cast: Irene Dunn, Barbara Bel Geddes.
Story: Swedish immigrants in America learn the lessons of thrift, developing children's talents, and unselfish service.
Key Quote: Katrin: But Mama, wouldn't you like to be rich? Mama: I would like to be rich the way I would like to be ten feet tall. Is good for some things, bad for others. Katrin: But didn't you come to America to get rich? Mama: No, we come to

America because they are all here, all the others. Is good for families to be together.
Black & White 147 min. VHS

Inn of the Sixth Happiness (1958) Biography.
Director: Mark Robson.
Cast: Ingrid Bergman, Curt Jurgens, Robert Donat.
Story: The true story of a woman who became a missionary in Northern China. Inspiring account of a modern-day Ruth, called Jen Ai, "the one who loves."
Key Quotes: Colonel Linn: "She walks through a world full of evil and sees only children, not complicated or cruel, just untidy ones who need to be fed, and washed, and loved."
Dr. Robinson: I remember you. Gladys Aylward, who wasn't qualified to come to China. Will you come with us to our children's village? I can think of no one who would be more valuable.
Color 158 min. VHS/DVD

Iron Will (1994) Family Adventure.
Director: Charles Haid. Cast: Mackenzie Astin, Keven Spacey, David Ogden Stiers.
Story: When Will Stoneman's father dies, he is left alone to take care of his mother and their land. True life story of courage and the will to succeed.
Key idea: When we have a deep seeded purpose in our soul we can perform at levels beyond our natural strength. Color 108 min. VHS/DVD

It's A Wonderful Life (1946) Drama/Romance.
Director: Frank Capra.
Cast: James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore.
Story: George Baily is given the chance to see what life would have been like had he not been born; how service to our fellow man has greater value than worldly honor.
Key Quote: Clarence: One man's life touches so many others. When he's not here it leaves an awfully big hole. Black & White 130 min. VHS/DVD

Johnny Tremain (1957) War drama.
Director: Robert Stevenson.
Cast: Hal Stalmaster, Luana Patten, Jeff York.
Story: A young man's involvement with the Sons of Liberty at the onset of the Revolutionary War.
Key Idea: People of all ages gravitated to the idea of freedom. This story could provide a pleasing way to introduce youth to a lesson in history.
Color 80 min. VHS/DVD

Joseph, King of Dreams (2000)
Musical/Animation/Family Drama.
Director: Rob LaDuca/Robert C. Ramirez.
Voice Cast: Ben Affleck, Mark Hamill, Maureen McGovern.
Story: Adaptation of Bible story that illustrates believing our destiny is connected to our obedience to God, and trusting in him during our darkest hours.

Key Idea: The designs of our Heavenly Father for our life and happiness are not always apparent, but His love and support remain unchanged.
Color 75 min. VHS/DVD

Juarez (1939) Historical Drama.

Director: William Dieterle.

Cast: Paul Muni, Bette Davis, Brian Aherne, Claude Rains.

Story: An insightful look at the man considered to be the Abraham Lincoln of Mexico.

Key Idea: Contains outstanding dialogue on the definition and power of democracy.

Black & White 125 min. VHS

Karate Kid, The (1984) Family/Drama.

Director: John G. Avildsen.

Cast: Ralph Macchio, Pat Morita, Elizabeth Shue.

Story: Guided by a wise mentor, a young man learns to both grow in wisdom and stature, and in favor with his fellow man as he prepares to confront his adversaries.

Viewer Guideline: Mild profanity/violence.

Color 126 min. VHS/DVD

King and I, The (1956) Comedy/Classic Musical.

Director: Walter Lang. Cast: Deborah Kerr, Yul Brynner, Rita Moreno.

Story: The king of Siam and an English teacher/governess learn tolerance for cultural differences. The great value of education and the necessity of a lifetime of learning and growth.

Color 133 min. VHS/DVD

Les Miserables (1978 TV) Classic Drama.

Director: John Gay.

Cast: Richard Jordan, Anthony Perkins.

Story: One of the greatest stories of the power of redemption. In prison for stealing a loaf of bread, a man gives himself over to darkness. He returns to the light when a man of faith turns him to God.

Key Quotes: The Bishop: There will be more joy in heaven over the tears of a repentant sinner than over the white robes of a hundred good men. If you are leaving that sorrowful place with hate and anger against men, you are deserving of compassion; If you leave it with goodwill and peace, you are better off than any of us.

The Bishop: My brother, you belong no longer to evil, but to good. It is your soul that I am buying for you. I withdraw it from darkness and all thoughts of evil, and I give it to God."

Color 150 min. VHS/DVD

Life of Emile Zola, The (1937) Drama Biography.

Director: William Dieterle.

Cast: Paul Muni, Gale Sondergaard.

Story: Civic-minded author (Zola) champions a fight for justice in behalf of a falsely accused Jewish Officer in the French Army. Based on a true story.

Key Idea: Justice often requires the courage of good men in order to triumph.

Black & White 116 min. VHS

Lilies of the Field (1963) Religious/Drama.

Director: Ralph Nelson.

Cast: Sidney Poitier, Lilia Skala.

Story: Using talents and ingenuity, an itinerant handyman helps a group of nuns build a chapel. We serve God by serving our fellow man. Includes a great scripture study scene.

Quote: Homer: (to Mother Superior offering thanks to God) Why don't you ever thank me?

Mother Superior: You couldn't help yourself. (Meaning God used him as his instrument)

Key Idea: This movie is a story of the everyday faith of a handful of nuns. They are lilies of the field growing in the New Mexico desert. They do toil and they spin. The beauty in which they are arrayed is unadorned faith. Yet, even Solomon in all his glory was not more beautifully adorned in prayer, determination, and trust in the Lord.

Black & White 94 min. VHS/DVD

Little Lord Fauntleroy (1980 TV) Christmas

Director: Jack Gold.

Cast: Rick Schroeder, Alec Guinness, Colin Blakely.

Story: A young American boy becomes heir to a fortune by looking on the bright side of situations.

Key Idea: As we lovingly heal others we find redemption for our own souls.

Color 100 min. VHS

Little Princess, A (1995) Drama/Fantasy.

Director: Alphonso Cuaron.

Cast: Liam Cunningham, Liesel Matthews.

Story: The story proclaims that every girl is a princess. Filled with examples of facing adversity with hope, courage, kindness and compassion.

Key Quote: Miss Minchin: Don't tell me you still fancy yourself a princess? Child, look around you! Or better yet, look in the mirror.

Sara Crewe: I am a princess. All girls are. Even if they live in tiny old attics. Even if they dress in rags, even if they aren't pretty, or smart, or young. They're still princesses. All of us. Didn't your father ever tell you that? Didn't he? Color 97 min. VHS/DVD

Little Women (1994) Family Drama/Romance.

Director: Gillian Armstrong. Cast: Winona Ryder, Gabriel Byrne, Susan Sarandon.

Story: Four daughters come of age, each facing her own individual trials and challenges.

Key Lessons: Dramatizes powerful lessons on family togetherness, developing talents, and sharing meager blessings with the poor.

Key Quote: Marmee March: Oh, Jo. Jo. Jo, you have so many extraordinary gifts; how can you expect to lead an ordinary life? You're ready to go out and find a

good use for your talent . . . Go, and embrace your liberty. And see what wonderful things come of it. Color 115 min. VHS/DVD

Longest Day, The (1962) War Drama.

Director: Ken Annakin/Andrew Marton.

Cast: Richard Burton, Eddie Albert, Sean Connery.

Story: World War II Drama: D-day landing in France.

Key Idea: Great lesson in history. The bravery of soldiers portrayed and the tragedy of war documented without resorting to graphic violence and gore.

Viewer Guideline: Wartime violence/language.

Black & White 180 min. VHS/DVD

Lost Horizon (1937) Drama/Fantasy.

Director: Frank Capra.

Cast: Ronald Colman, Jane Wyatt.

Story: Story of a man who found--and then left--a paradise.

Key Idea: This film could be the beginning of a meaningful family discussion on the purpose of a fallen world, where pain and hardship abound.

Black & White 132 min. VHS/DVD

Louis Pasteur, Story of (1935) Drama

Biography

Director: William Dieterle.

Cast: Paul Muni, Anita Louise.

Story: The story of the man who originated the idea of germs being the cause of disease and the need for sterilization. The idea was met with derision. He invented pasteurization and made the first vaccination against rabies.

Black & White 87 min. VHS only

Madame Curie (1943) Biography/Drama.

Director: Mervyn LeRoy.

Cast: Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon.

Story: This fine film stays closer to the facts of its subject's life than might be expected for its time. Pierre grows to respect Marie's scientific knowledge, and falls in love. Together they work with fierce determination to make a scientific discovery of great importance.

Black & White 124 min. VHS

Magic of Lassie (1978) Family Drama.

Director: Don Chaffey. Cast: James Stewart, Pernell Roberts, Mickey Rooney, more. . .

Story: A revamp of *Lassie Come Home*. James Stewart makes it worth watching. Good family movie. Color 100 min. VHS only

Magnificent Obsession (1954)

Romance/Drama. Director: Douglas Sirk.

Cast: Jane Wyman, Rock Hudson, Barbara Rush.

Story: A rich playboy is indirectly responsible for the death of a well-loved doctor and the blindness of his wife. He devotes his life to a cure for her.

Key Principles: Making restitution for costly mistakes can provide growth and bring peace.

Personal power can be derived from doing good anonymously. Color 108 min. VHS only

Man Called Peter, A (1955) Biography/Drama.

Director: Henry Koster.

Cast: Richard Todd, Jean Peters.

Story: Based on the true story of a young Scottish man who receives a "calling" from God to be a minister. He becomes Chaplain of the U.S. Senate.

Key Quotes: Peter: The great things by which we live are not proven by logic but by life. So it is with God.

Peter: That which we call Salvation . . . is a free gift.

It is not dangling before the Christian like a carrot before a mule. It is not something that the Church has to peddle, and probably no idea hurts me more than suggesting that I am a salesman--endeavoring to sell people on the idea of religion. Religion is not for sale! It is a gift. It is given away.

Color 119 min. VHS only

A Man for All Seasons (1966) Drama

Director: Fred Zinnemann.

Cast: Paul Scofield, Robert Shaw, Orson Welles, John Hurt.

Story: The movie portrays Moore's stand to uphold his personal integrity and stay true to himself, despite being brought to trial and found guilty of treason.

Key Quote: Thomas Moore: think that when statesmen forsake their own private conscience for the sake of their public duties, they lead their country by a short route to chaos.

Viewer Guideline: Occasional profanity

Color 120 min. VHS/DVD

Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh, The

(2002) Collection of Animated Classics:

Winnie the Pooh and the Blustery Day (1968);

Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree (1966);

Winnie the Pooh and Tigger Too (1974);

A Day for Eeyore (1983).

Key Lessons: This series of short animations provides rich teaching opportunities. Each episode offers a classic example of how to enlarge our circle of love to include those around us, accept them for what they are, and live contented in love and tolerance. Color 71 min. VHS/DVD

Mary Poppins (1964) Fantasy/Comedy.

Director: Robert Stevenson.

Cast: Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke.

Story: A nanny with extraordinary powers signs on in a proper English household. She stays until they learn that the most important success happens at home.

Key Quote: Bert: Say no more, Gov'ner. You've got to grind, grind, grind at that grindstone . . . Though childhood slips like sand through a sieve . . . And all

too soon they've up and grown, and then they've flown, and it's too late for you to give.
Color 140 min. VHS/DVD

Meet John Doe (1941) Comedy/Drama.

Director: Frank Capra.

Cast: Gary Cooper, Barbara Stanwyck, Edward Arnold, Walter Brennan.

Story: A fraudulent publicity campaign unites the silent majority into supporting each other. Contrasts the secret designs of conspiring men and the press with the power of the voice of the people.

Black & White 135 min. VHS/DVD

Miracle at Moreaux (1986) Drama.

Director: Paul Shapiro.

Cast: Loretta Swit, Genevieve Appleton,

Story: A nun risks her life to shelter Jewish children during the war.

Key Idea: Learning to know someone helps overcome prejudice and preconceived ideas about them. Color 58 minutes VHS/DVD

Miracle on 34th Street (1947) Christmas

Classic. Director: George Seaton.

Cast: Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Gene Lockhardt.

Story: Santa Claus is put on trial both in the courtroom and in the heart of a little girl whose mother does not approve make believe.

Key Idea: Offers a good case for the purpose of certain intangibles in life, such as: the power of imagination; the need to believe in things we cannot see; and how the spirit of Christmas blesses us all.

Black & White 96 min. VHS/DVD

Miracle Worker, The (1962) Drama.

Director: Arthur Penn. Cast: Anne Bancroft, Patty Duke, Victor Jory, Inga Swenson.

Story: The story of Helen Keller, blind and deaf, and her teacher, Anne Sullivan. Anne makes a determined struggle to break through to Helen.

Key Idea: Miracles can be wrought by faith, love, and unrelenting determination.

Key Quotes: Anne: (to an unresponsive Helen) Everything on (the earth) is ours for a wink and (then) it's gone. And what are we on it--*the light we bring to it--(we) leave behind in words. You can see five thousand years back in (time, with) words. And I know with one word I can put the world in your hand. And whatever it is to me, I won't take less.*

Viewer Guideline: May be too intense for young children. Black & White 106 min. VHS/DVD

Monster's Inc. (2001) Animation/Comedy.

Director: Peter Docter/David Silverman. Voice Cast: John Goodman, Billy Crystal.

Story: Monsters generate their city's power by scaring children, but they are terribly afraid themselves of being contaminated by children.

Key Idea: Laughter generates far greater power than fear. Color 92 min. VHS/DVD

Mr. Deeds Comes to Town (1936) Comedy.

Director: Frank Capra.

Cast: Gary Cooper, Jean Arthur.

Story: An eccentric tuba player inherits \$20 million. He tries to teach others how to use riches for the sake of the needy: This drama highlights the idea that a person isn't crazy just because he's different.

Key Quote: Longfellow Deeds: People here are funny. They work so hard at living they forget how to live.

Key Principle: The Lord may bless us with riches if we have the intent to do good with them: clothe the naked, feed the hungry, liberate the captive, and administer relief to the sick and afflicted. (Jacob 2:19) Black & White 115 min. VHS/DVD

Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939) Drama

Classic. Director: Frank Capra.

Cast: James Stewart, Jean Arthur, Claude Rains.

Story: An honest man comes to Washington. The best lesson on civics and government on film. It can restore your faith in democracy. (On all of the "greatest movie" lists.)

Key Quote: Jefferson Smith: You see, boys forget what their country means by just reading "The Land of the Free" in history books. Then they get to be men and they forget. Liberty's too precious a thing to be buried in books, Miss Saunders. Men should hold it up in front of them every single day of their lives and say: I'm free to think and to speak. My ancestors couldn't, I can, and my children will. Boys ought to grow up remembering that.

Black & White 129 min. VHS/DVD

Mrs. Miniver (1942) Family Drama Classic.

Director: William Wyler.

Cast: Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon.

Story: This film chronicles the lives of an English family ravaged by the war. It teaches how to overcome social barriers, live with courage during times of war, freely give service to our country, and the blessing of solid family values.

Quote: Vicar: This is the people's war! It is our war! We are the fighters! Fight it with all that is in us, and may God defend the right.

Key Scripture: At the end of the movie the minister quotes from the 91st Psalm. "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in him will I trust. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. . . For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." Psalm 91:2,4-6, 11)

(President Franklin Roosevelt had the minister's speech printed and air-dropped all over war-torn Europe.)

Black & White 134 min. VHS/DVD

Music Man, The (1962) Musical Comedy.
Director: Morton DaCosta.
Cast: Robert Preston, Shirley Jones, Buddy Hackett.
Story: A shady salesman peddling band uniforms and instruments finds true love with a librarian.
Power of musical training as a deterrent to idleness.
Key Quote: Oh, my dear little librarian. You pile up enough tomorrows, and you'll find you are left with nothing but a lot of empty yesterdays. I don't know about you, but I'd like to make today worth remembering.
Color 151 min. VHS/DVD

Mutiny on the Bounty, The (1935) Adventure/Drama. Director: Frank Lloyd.
Cast: Charles Laughton, Clark Cable, Spring Byington.
Story: One of film's most powerful examples of the conflict between personal conscience and the unjust application of the law.
Black & White 132 min. VHS/DVD

National Velvet (1944) Family Drama Classic.
Director: Clarence Brown.
Cast: Mickey Rooney, Elizabeth Taylor, Angela Lansbury.
Story: Support and encouragement of our children's gifts and their quest for excellence. Good insights into how to nurture youth and build character.
Color 123 min. VHS/DVD

Night Crossing (1981) Family Drama
Director: Delbert Mann.
Cast: John Hurt, Jane Alexander, Beau Bridges.
Story: Based on a true story of a family's desperate bid for freedom to escape East Germany in a hot air balloon. Color 107 min. DVD

Old Yeller (1957) Family Drama Western
Director: Robert Stevenson.
Cast: Dorothy McGuire, Fess Parker, Chuck Connors, Kevin Corcoran.
Story: When a yellow mongrel comes for an uninvited stay with the family, they reluctantly adopt the dog. After a series of scrapes with wild animals, he grows to love and respect the dog. In fact, this old yellow mongrel has a profound effect on the boy.
Key Quote: Papa: Now and then, for no good reason a man can figure out, life will just knock him flat. But it's not all like that, a lot of it is mighty fine. And you can't afford to waste the good part fretting about the bad. That makes it all bad. You understand what I'm trying to get at?
Travis: Yes, sir, it's just that. . . Papa: Yeah, I know. Saying it is one thing and feeling it is another. But I'll tell you a trick that is sometimes a big help. If you start looking around for something good to take the place of the bad, as a general rule you can find it.
Color 83 min. VHS/DVD

Other Side of Heaven, The (2001) Drama.
Director: Mitch Davis.
Cast: Christopher Gorham, Anne Hathaway.
Story: A missionary sent to a remote island to build the kingdom learns to love the people as his own family. In the process both the missionary and the people he teaches are sanctified. Based on the real life experiences of Elder John Groberg.
Key Quote: Kolipoki: (to a mother who wants him to father a son with her daughter) Look at this. This is a picture of my true love. We want to be married for eternity when I return. So we promised that we would save that part of ourselves (their chastity). She is keeping her promise to me. Do you think I should break my promise to her?
Girl's mother: Kolipoki, you must keep your promise. Thank you for telling me.
Color 127 min. VHS/DVD

Pinocchio (1940) Disney Animation.
Story: A puppet created by a lonely clockmaker comes to life.
Key Idea: This story uses powerful visual metaphors to illustrate the qualities of character that do and do not make someone a "real boy." For example, lying causes his nose to grow longer; drinking and rowdy behavior cause bad boys to sprout ears, tail, and features of a jackass. On the other hand, obeying parents, keeping the Word of Wisdom, and serving one another help build character and strengthen family ties. Color 88 min. VHS

Pollyanna (1960) Family/Comedy/Drama.
Director: David Swift. Cast: Jane Wyman, Hayley Mills, Richard Egan, Karl Malden.
Story: A young orphan resurrects the spirit of a whole town with the Christian philosophy of being of good cheer. This one is not just for kids.
Key Quotes: Pollyanna: (quoting Abraham Lincoln) When you look for the bad in mankind, expecting to find it, you surely will. Reverend Ford: If God took the trouble to tell us more than 800 times to be happy—we surely should do it.
Key Principle: The happy texts or the glad texts consist of 826 references in the Bible in which the Lord exhorts, even commands us, to lift up our hearts, to rejoice, to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Color 134 min. VHS/DVD

Pride and Prejudice (1940) Dramatic Comedy
Director: Robert Z. Leonard.
Cast: Greer Garson, Laurence Olivier.
Story: A family with five daughters connives to find suitable husbands for them all. All this takes place within the social structure of 19th century England.
Key Idea: A humorous look at the principle that pride is much easier to see in others than to acknowledge in ourselves, and how it can be a great barrier to our ultimate happiness.
Black & White 118 min. VHS

Pride of the Yankees, The (1942) Heroic Drama. Director: Sam Wood.
Cast: Gary Cooper, Teresa Wright, Babe Ruth.
Story: Based upon the true story of Lou Gehrig; his devotion to his wife and to his life's work; how he courageously accepted a crippling illness.
Key Quotes: Lou Gehrig: People have to live their own lives. Nobody can live it for you. Nobody could have made a baseball player out of Uncle Otto, and nobody can make anything but a baseball player out of me. Lou Gehrig's farewell speech: Today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth. Black & White 128 min. VHS/DVD

Prince of Egypt, The (1998) Animation/Musical/ Religious Drama.
Directors: Brenda Chapman/Steve Hickner.
Voice Cast: Val Kilmer, Michelle Pfeiffer, Sandra Bullock.
Story: Engaging retelling of the story of Moses and his struggle to free his people from bondage in Egypt. **Key Quote:** Song lyric: There can be miracles, if you believe.
Viewer Guideline: Review the biblical account and help children and youth identify the truth and fictional elements of the story that are added.
Color 99 min. VHS/DVD

Random Harvest (1942) Drama Romance.
Director: Mervyn LeRoy. Cast: Ronald Coleman, Greer Garson.
Story: A woman befriends a man with amnesia, they fall in love, marry and have a child. A strange twist of fate jeopardizes their happiness.
Key Idea: One of the great film examples of true charity, serving each other and sacrificing our feelings for the sake of those we love.
Black & White 125 min. VHS/DVD

Remember the Titans (2000) Drama.
Director: Boaz Yakin. Cast: Denzel Washington, Will Patton, Julius Campbell, Ryan Hurst.
Story: A whole town learns patience, tolerance and winning ways as a high school football team grapples with being forcibly integrated.
Key Quote: Sheryl: People say that it can't work, black and white; well here we make it work, everyday. We have our disagreements, of course, but before we reach for hate, always, always, we remember the Titans.
Color 113 min. VHS/DVD

Rescuers, The (1977) Animation/ Adventure.
Directors: John Lounsbery/Wolfgang Reitherman.
Voice Cast: Bob Newhart, Eva Gabor, Geraldine Page, Pat Buttram.
Story: Two little mice search for a little girl kidnapped by an unscrupulous woman attempting to find a precious gem, and using the child for her own purposes.

Key Quote: Rufus the cat: Faith is a bluebird, we see from far. It's for real and as sure as the first evening star, you can't touch it or buy it or wrap it up tight but it's there just the same, making things turn out right. Color 77 min. VHS/DVD

Road Home, The (1999) Drama/Romance.
Director: Zhang Yimou.
Cast: Zhang Ziyi, Sun Honglei.
Story: Powerful love story told with such simplicity, artistry, and sincerity that it should enchant and inspire. Love is expressed as service and respect for one another.
Key Ideas: Family ties and traditions shape and guide the main characters in this film. The power and influence of a teacher is extolled.
Viewer Guideline: In Mandarin Chinese with subtitles. Color 89 min. VHS/DVD

Robe, The (1953) Inspirational Drama.
Director: Henry Koster.
Cast: Richard Burton, Jean Simmons, Victor Mature.
Story: The story of the conversion of the Roman Tribune who helped carry out the crucifixion of Christ.
Key Idea: Interesting and sometimes inspiring look at what early Christians may have faced and how they reacted. Powerful ending.
Viewer Guideline: strong emphasis on promoting faith through physical "objects" (the robe).
Color 135 min. VHS/DVD

Robin Hood (1938) Action/Adventure.
Director: Michael Curtiz, William Keighley
Cast: Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland.
Story: A patriot becomes an outlaw who surrounds himself with men willing to fight against injustice.
Key Idea: This story champions the downtrodden. It provides a vivid example of how men try to enrich themselves on the backs of the poor. Illustrates the constant need of men of integrity to combat forces of injustice. Color 102 min. VHS/DVD

Roman Holiday (1953) Romantic Comedy.
Director: William Wyler.
Cast: Audrey Hepburn, Gregory Peck.
Story: A newsman falls in love with an errant princess while covering the story of her disappearance.
Key Idea: Love transcends wealth, position, and desire for success and often requires us to make painful sacrifices. Black & White 118 min. VHS/DVD

Rookie, The (2002) Family Drama.
Director: John Lee Hancock.
Cast: Dennis Quaid, Rachel Griffiths.
Story: A baseball coach from Texas makes the big league after agreeing to try out if his high school team make the playoffs.
Key Idea: It's never too late to strive for your dreams. Color 127 min. VHS/DVD

Ruth, The Story of (1960) Drama.

Director: Henry Koster.

Cast: Stuart Whitman, Tom Tryon, Peggy Wood.

Story: While it takes the usual license with the scriptural story, this movie is faithful to the ideals inherently found in the classic tale.

Key Idea: This film can provoke a meaningful discussion of the evils of idolatry and human sacrifice and their modern counterparts. Color 132 min. VHS

Saints and Soldiers (2004) War Drama

Director: Ryan Little Cast: Corbin Allred, Alexander Polinsky, Kirby Heybourne, Larry Bagby

Story: Five soldiers with valuable information struggle to return to friendly lines.

Key Idea: A soldier's faith guides him through a wartime nightmare and becomes a guiding influence to others who are unsure of what they believe. Color 90 min. DVD

Sarah, Plain and Tall (1991 TV) Family Classic.

Director: Glenn Jordan. Cast: Glenn Close, Christopher Walken, Lexi Randall, Margaret Sophie Stein, Jon DeVries.

Story: A widower in Kansas seeks for someone to help with his farm and his family, to see if she "can make a difference." A New England schoolteacher responds.

Key Quote: Sarah: Perhaps it's a mistake to deprive the children of her memories. Jacob: That's enough! Sarah: Catherine meant for her things to be used in love. Jacob: I said No! Sarah: She's dead Jacob. The children are alive. They need the connection to her. You asked for someone who would make a difference to them. Jacob: Cutting their hair, singing with them, helping them with their school work, this is a help to me. It's all I want. Sarah: I can't make a difference until you come to peace with Catherine's death.

Key Idea: Honesty and service provide a firm foundation upon which romance can then be built. Color 98 min. VHS/DVD

Scarlet and the Black, The (1983 TV) Drama

Director: Jerry London. Cast: Gregory Peck, Christopher Plummer, John Gielgud.

Story: Based on the true story of Father Hugh O'Flaherty, a Vatican official during WWII, who hides downed pilots and freedom fighters.

Key Quote: Colonel Kappler: You stay behind the white line or you'll spend the rest of the war in prison. O'Flaherty: The way the war is going that might not be long at all. Colonel Kappler: I own Rome, not you, not the pope. Just because you wear a frock it won't protect you. Remember what happened to your gun runner priest (who was executed).

O'Flaherty: I do remember! And so does every person in Italy who understands the meaning of freedom. Color 143 min. VHS/DVD

Scarlet Pimpernel, The (1982) Drama.

Director: Clive Donner. Cast: Anthony Andrews, Jane Seymour, Ian McKellen.

Story: The story takes place during the French Revolution. An English aristocrat disguises himself in order to free innocent people from tyranny and death.

Key Lessons: provides a story setting for lessons in courage, ingenuity and standing up to injustice even when we ourselves are not threatened by it. Color 142 min. VHS/DVD

Searching for Bobby Fischer (1993) Family

Drama Director: Steven Zaillian. Cast: Max Pomeranc, Joe Mantegna, Joan Allen, Ben Kingsley.

Story: A family with a gifted son struggle to maintain correct family priorities when the father begins to think more of winning than nurturing his son.

Key Quote: Bonnie: He's not afraid of losing. He's afraid of losing your love. How many ball players grow up afraid of losing their fathers' love every time they come up to the plate? Fred: All of them! Bonnie: He knows you disapprove of him. He knows you think he's weak. But he's not weak. He's decent. And if you or Bruce or anyone else tries to beat that out of him, I swear . . . I'll take him away.

Key Principle: "No other success can compensate for failure in the home." (David O. McKay) Color 110 min. VHS/DVD

Secret Garden, The (1993) Family Drama

Director: Agnieszka Holland.

Cast: Kate Maberly, Heydon Prowse, Andrew Knott.

Story: A spoiled English girl living in 19th century India loses both parents; she is sent back to England to live in a rural mansion.

Key Quote: Mary: My uncle learned to laugh, and I learned to cry. The secret garden is open now. Open, and awake, and alive. If you look the right way, you can see that the whole world is a garden.

Key Idea: Through friendship, courage, grit, and efforts to restore an abandoned garden, children become caring, contributing youth. Color 100 min. VHS/DVD

Sergeant York (1941) Drama War Family

Director: Howard Hawks. Cast: Gary Cooper, Walter Brennan, Joan Leslie, Margaret Wycherly.

Story: The true story of the bravest soldier in WW 1; his conversion, his willingness to live by the word of the Lord, his patriotism and honor during battle.

Key Quotes: Alvin: "I done forgot the Lord, I ain't never going to forget Him again.

Alvin's mother: Alvin's in good hands. The Lord takes care of him that's a believin' in Him.

Key Principle: In the movie a bolt of lightning helped convert Alvin York. In real life, Alvin's conversion came as a result of his mother's appeal for him to become the kind of man his father was. From that night on he gave up swearing, drinking, and smoking. Black & White 134 min. VHS

Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (1954)

Musical Comedy.

Director: Stanley Donen.

Cast : Howard Keel, Jane Powell, Russ Tamblyn.

Story: While a family of rowdy men kidnap six pretty females for their wives, strict standards of morality and propriety are maintained.

Key idea: Service and respect contribute to love as much as, or even more than, physical attraction or common interests. Color 102 min. VHS/DVD

Shadowlands (1993) Drama/Romance.

Director: Richard Attenborough. Cast: Anthony Hopkins, Debra Winger, Joseph Mazzello

Story: A revered writer and teacher falls in love and marries a gritty, compassionate woman. She brings him out of his cloistered world. When she contracts cancer they are thrust into a situation of profound pain, both physical and spiritual.

Key Quotes: Harry: I know how hard you've been praying; and now God is answering your prayers.

Jack: That's not why I pray, Harry. I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God, it changes me.

Joy: We can't have the happiness of yesterday without the pain of today. That's the deal.

Key Principle: C.S. Lewis became a sought-after speaker because he had uncovered the "text book" answers to pain and suffering. This is the story of how he learned those lessons by his own experience. Color 131 min. VHS/DVD

Shop around the Corner, The (1940)

Romantic Comedy

Director: Ernst Lubitsch

Cast: James Stewart, Margaret Sullavan.

Story: Feuding store clerks are unaware they are falling in love with each other as pen pals.

Key Idea: This film offers a great example of looking past appearances and trying to appreciate people's inner strengths.

Key Scripture: . . . For the Lord seeth not as a man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7)
Black & White 99 min. VHS/DVD

Singin' in the Rain (1952) Musical Comedy.

Director: Stanley Donen

Cast: Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, Debbie Reynolds

Story: Show business musical comedy where the understudy with real talent finally gets the recognition she deserves. Contains two of the most entertaining production numbers in film history.

Key Idea: Highlights how the proper application of your talents eventually reaps success.
Color 103 min. VHS/DVD

Skylark (1993 TV) Family Drama.

Director: Joseph Sargent.

Cast: Glenn Close, Christopher Walken, Lexi Randall, Christopher Bell.

Story: How a woman who loves the sea comes to write her name in the drought stricken soil of Kansas. A love story almost unparalleled in film.

Key Quotes: Sarah: (to her children) I loved your father's letters. But, it was what was between the lines that I love the most. Caleb: What was between the lines? Sarah: His life—that's what was between the lines.

Maggie: You know, you are like the prairie lark. It sings from high in the air to tell the other birds it's there, and then it drops to the earth. But you have not come to earth Sarah. You don't have to love this land, but, if you don't, you won't survive. Jacob is right. You have to write your name in it to live here.
Color 95 min. VHS/DVD

Sound of Music, The (1965) Musical/ Family Drama.

Director: Robert Wise. Cast: Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Eleanor Parker.

Story: Based on a true story of a family in Austria. A nun, employed as a nanny, brings life back into a family grieving their deceased mother.

Key Lesson: How love, music, and facing life without fear of consequences give strength and power to families and nations.

Key Quotes: Capt. Von Trapp: You are the twelfth in a long line of governesses who have come here to look after my children since their mother died. I trust you will be an improvement on the last one. She stayed only two hours.

Maria: I can't seem to stop singing wherever I am. And what's worse, I can't seem to stop saying things - anything and everything I think and feel. Mother Superior: Some people would call that honesty.

Maria: Oh, but it's terrible, Reverend Mother.

Color 174 min. VHS/DVD

Spirit of St. Louis, The (1957) Drama/Adventure

Director: Billy Wilder. Cast: James Stewart.

Story: The heroism of Charles Lindbergh's solo flight over the Atlantic.

Key Idea: The triumph of the human spirit over the elements and over the shadows of our past.
Color 135 min. VHS

Star Wars IV, V, and VI (1977) (1980) (1983) Sci-fi Adventure Fantasy.

Director: George Lucas. Cast: Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher.

Story: Youthful warriors, robots, exotic animals and primitive creatures unite to fight against the empire of evil and its horrible weapons.

Key Idea: Classic look at the confrontation between opposing powers of good and evil.
Color VHS/DVD

Straight Story, The (1999) Drama.
Director: David Lynch.
Cast: Richard Farnsworth, Sissy Spacek.
Story: A man, estranged from his brother for years because of ill feelings, desires to heal their relationship before one of them dies. Too old to drive a car, he sets out on a riding mower to make the trek.
Key Quote: Alvin Straight: There's no one knows your life better than a brother that's near your age. He knows who you are and what you are better than anyone on earth. My brother and I said some unforgivable things the last time we met, but, I'm trying to put that behind me. I just hope I'm not too late . . . a brother's a brother.
Key Idea: Illustrates the power of listening to one another with respect and understanding.
Color 111 min. VHS/DVD

Summer of the Monkeys (1998) Family Drama.
Director: Michael Anderson. Cast: Michael Ontkean, Leslie Hope, Wilford Brimley, Corey Sevier.
Story: A young farm boy spends his summer trying to outwit four monkeys who escaped from the circus. He hopes to buy a horse with the reward money.
Key Idea: Real life experience and strong parental guidance provide the means for boys to become men. Color 101 min. VHS/DVD

Ten Commandments, The (1956) Religious Drama/Adventure.
Director: Cecil B. DeMille.
Cast: Charlton Heston, Yul Brynner, Anne Baxter, Edward G. Robinson.
Story: Children of Israel are delivered from the slavery of Egypt only to find themselves enslaved to superstition and disbelief.
Key Principle: True deliverance comes from obeying commandments. Color 220 min. VHS/DVD

Tender Mercies (1983) Drama
Director: Bruce Beresford Cast: Robert Duvall, Tess Harper, Wilford Brimley, Ellen Barkin.
Story: Down and out drifter/drunken/songwriter discovers the mercies that the Lord shows those willing to believe and change.
Color 92 min. VHS/DVD

Third Man on the Mountain (1959) Adventure.
Director: Ken Annakin.
Cast: Michael Rennie, James MacArthur,
Story: A young man and his mentor are determined to climb the mountain that claimed the life of the young man's father.
Key Ideas: Gives an opportunity to discuss the need for learning, preparation, and levelheaded thinking in crisis. Also offers a chance to discuss how those on the other side of the veil sometimes minister to us.
Color 105 min. DVD

Thirty Seconds over Tokyo (1944) Drama War.
Director: Mervyn LeRoy.
Cast: Van Johnson, Robert Walker.
Story: Fact-based story of first bombing raid over Tokyo: the courage of the flight crew and the patriotism of their Chinese supporters.
Key Idea: Many war brides have shown as much courage as their soldier husbands in welcoming back men with crippling or disfiguring injuries.
Black & White 138 min. VHS

To Kill a Mockingbird (1962) Drama.
Director: Robert Mulligan.
Cast: Gregory Peck, Mary Badham, Robert Duval.
Story: A widowed, hometown lawyer tries to raise his children and overcome racial prejudice in his quest for justice.
Key Quote: Atticus Finch to his daughter Scout: If you just learn a single trick, Scout, you'll get along a lot better with all kinds of folks. You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view. . .until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it.
Black & White 129 min. VHS/DVD

To Sir with Love (1967) Drama.
Director: James Clavell.
Cast: Sidney Poitier, Christian Roberts, Judy Geeson.
Story: A new teacher in a London high school gives students an education in living life along with academics.
Key Idea: Love for students can lift even young people whose circumstances are pulling them down.
Color 105 min. VHS/DVD

Toy Story II (1999) Animation Family Comedy
Director: Ash Brannon/John Lasseter.
Voice Cast: Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, Joan Cusack.
Story: A toy collector kidnaps Woody, who is a highly valued collectible. It's up to Buzz and the rest of the toys from Andy's room to rescue him. There is plenty of fun and excitement and one adventure after another.
Key Idea: The love and friendship we offer each other create one of the most meaningful dimensions of our lives. Color 92 min. VHS/DVD

Veggie Tales (1998 to 2002) Animation/Religious Comedy Series. Our favorites include:
Easter Carol, An (2004) 30 min.
Esther, The Girl Who Became Queen (2000) 30 min.
Jonah, (2002) 82 min.
King George and the Ducky (2000) 30 min.
Madame Blueberry (1998) 30 min.
A Snoodle's Tale (2004) 50 min.
Key Idea: These animated stories combine Sunday morning values with Saturday morning cartoon fun.

Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

(1971) Family/Musical/Comedy/Fantasy.

Director: Mel Stuart.

Cast: Gene Wilder, Jack Albertson, Roy Kinnear.

Story: Children win tickets to tour a magical candy factory where character flaws are ingeniously revealed. Great start of a family discussion on honesty, TV habits, greed, and character building.

Key Quote: *Willy Wonka:* [singing] If you want to view paradise, simply look around and view it. Anything you want to, do it. Want to change the world? There's nothing to it.

Color 100 min. VHS/DVD

Windwalker (1980) Western Adventure.

Director: Keith Merrill. Cast: Trevor Howard, Nick Ramus, James Remar, Serene Hedin.

Story: The grandfather of an honorable Indian family accepts and fulfills the will of the Lord. He comes back from the dead to help preserve his family.

Key Idea: This family only resorts to violence to defend themselves from aggressors. This is a key in understanding Book of Mormon warfare.

Color 108 min. VHS/DVD

Work and the Glory, The (2004) Religious

Drama. Director: Russ Holt.

Cast: Sam Hennings, Brenda Strong, Eric Johnson, Alexander Carroll, Tiffany Dupont.

Story: A fictional family (the Steeds) and others close to them face the possibility of being pulled apart by involvement with the restoration of the gospel in New York state in the 1830's.

Key Idea: Conversion and personal conviction of revealed truth are individual matters. And yet, in another sense, they are gifts from God to all the honest in heart. Color 118 min. VHS/DVD

Yearling, The (1946) Family Drama.

Director: Clarence Brown. Cast: Gregory Peck, Jane Wyman, Claude Jarman, Jr. Chill Wills

Story: A frontier boy tries to raise an orphaned fawn as a pet. When the pet starts to eat the crops he threatens the success of the farm.

Key Idea: Family togetherness helps them weather stark frontier realities.

Color 128 min. VHS/DVD

Young Mr. Lincoln (1939) Biography.

Director: John Ford Cast: Henry Fonda, Alice Brady, Marjorie Weaver, Donald Meek.

Story: A humorous and insightful look at the formative years and struggles of Abraham Lincoln. He became a genuine American hero, and the President of the United States.

Key Idea: Lincoln's ultimate destiny took awhile to manifest itself. His preparation and determination give all of us a star by which to navigate our own lives. Color 100 min. VHS

Church Video Recordings

One of the most reliable yet underused sources of uplifting media is the [LDS Church Distribution Center](#). Many of the videos and DVD's are just the right length for Family Home Evening and Sunday viewing. Here is a partial list of the kind of media available:

Between Heaven and Earth 44 min.

Documentary look at temples, ancient and modern.

Bible/Book of Mormon/Doctrine and Covenants Stories for Children

Illustrated scripture stories with audio narration.

7 volumes varying from 58 to 105 min.

Book of Mormon/New Testament/Old Testament/ Teachings from Doctrine & Covenants/Church History Video Presentations

Historical segments and doctrinal principles.

9 to 12 part series, 3 to 20 min. segments

Ensign to the Nations, An 60 min.

Stories of gospel pioneers all over the world who helped open the doors of their nation to the Church.

Gordon B. Hinckley: Man of Integrity 59 min.

Howard W. Hunter: Prophet of God 58 min.

Finely crafted video biographies

Mountain of the Lord, The 72 min.

Dramatization of the 40 history of building the Salt Lake Temple.

Special Witnesses of Christ 65 minutes

Personal witnesses of the Quorum of the Twelve and the First Presidency

Stories of Christmas 1 hour 42 min.

Mr. Kueger's Christmas, Nora's Christmas Gift, The Fourth Wise Man, The Nativity.

Dramatized/animated stories of Christmas.

Teach the Child 24 min.

Demonstrations and training on the need to teach children the gospel.

Voice from the Dust, A Four-part series

How Rare a Possession, A Marvelous Work Begins, The Three Witnesses, For Us!

The influence and power of the Book of Mormon and how it came forth.

Worth of Souls Five-part series of drama classics

Uncle Ben, The Gift, The Mailbox, Pioneers in Petticoats, Johnny Lingo.

The individual worth of souls and how to serve those around them.