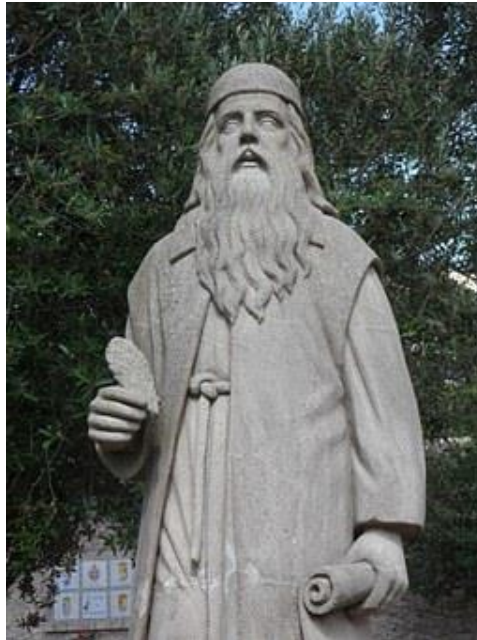


Richardson Studies Education Anthologies

Libraries

Suggested Books Teachers & Movies



By Nate Richardson



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Contents

Introductory Notes	7
Categories	7
Teachers: Church history doctrine and standards	7
Teachers: Signs of the Times	8
Teachers: Science.....	8
Teachers: Book of Mormon Heartland Geography.....	8
Teachers: History & Government	9
Teachers: Family and social studies.....	9
Teachers: Education & homeschool	10
Teachers: Business, Finance, Economics	10
Teachers: Health	10
BOOK SUGGESTIONS	11
~3 Books of Each Genre Suggested by Dr. Peter Kreeft	12
Away Babylon Textbooks, Here are Best Books to Re-Read Through Life:	
Introduction.....	16
Best Books: Scripture	17
Best Books: Religious Doctrine.....	18
Best Books: Life of Joseph Smith.....	19
Best Books: Christian Persecution.....	19
Best Books: Religion Manuals.....	21
Best Books: Religion & Temples in Antiquity	21
Best Books: End Time Prophecy	22
Best Books: Marriage & Parenting	22
Best Books: Education.....	23
Best Books: Government	24
Best Books: Government Conspiracy	25
Best Books: History	25
Best Books: Economics	26
Best Books: From the Reformation	26
Best Books: Classic Literature.....	26

Best Books: Poetry.....	30
Best Books: Science.....	31
Best Books: Nutrition	31
Best Books: Psychology.....	31
Best Books: Philosophy	32
Best Books: Textbooks	32
Versions of the Talmud.....	34
Teen Books Recommended by The Joseph Smith Foundation.....	37
Various Book Suggestions.....	37
Resources to Build Your Library	37
MOVIES	39
Likely add the extended movie commentaries from rec bk	42
Some Religious Films	42
Most Highly Recommended Religious Films	42
The Living Scriptures – consider listing all titles pasting from site?.....	44
Not so Great Religious Films.....	44
Book Highlights: Stories of Lost Israel in Folklore by Rev. James B. Haggart ..	44
Titles from our library sorting in – from ‘lit’ binder.....	45
TV Series - General	46
Some proper but useless popular movies to avoid, merely amusing and teach nothing	47
Considering	47
Sorting, but highly recommended.....	47
Wholesome but not particularly brilliant	48
Christmas	48
Charles Dickens	48
Jane Austen	49
Demonstrating Toxic Effects of Substance Abuse.....	49
Introduction to Movie Selection Philosophy.....	49
Christian Persecution	51
Children: Best Religion.....	52

Children: Best Liberty.....	52
Children: Other	52
Action/Suspense/War.....	53
Drama.....	53
Comedy, Fun.....	54
History & War.....	54
Musicals	55
Dance (Ballet, Irish, Etc.) (add)	55
Movies On Classic Literature	56
Movies Portraying Strong Father Figures	57
A Few Recommended Disney Classics still sorting	58
Disney Possibilities Pending Research	64
Resources on Suggested Movies.....	65

Introductory Notes

*The following are traditionalist (not progressive) authors & teachers among the Latter-day Saints who have made significant contributions to the righteous education of the saints.

*Some of these have written at length on the subjects they're mentioned in, others are people in positions of authority who have made strong traditionalist statements in the subject they are listed in.

*Like how Samuel the Lamanite was a contemporary prophet with Nephi, let's make sure we don't forget about the important messages that these teachers bring, despite their sometimes informal callings.

Categories

Church history doctrine and standards

Signs of the Times

Science

Book of Mormon (Heartland) Geography

History & Government

Family & Social Sciences

Education & Homeschool

Business & Finance

Health

[Teachers: Church history doctrine and standards](#)

-Joseph Smith & Brigham Young

-Joseph Fielding Smith

-Bruce R McConkie

-Hannah & James Stoddard josephsmithfoundation.org

-Joseph Smith Foundation Stoddard's

-Kimberly Watson Smith (writes with Joseph Smith Foundation)

-Rod Meldrum BookofMormonEvidence.com

Teachers: Signs of the Times

- Joseph Smith & Brigham Young
- Russell M Nelson
- Dwayne S Crowther
- Bruce R McConkie
- Joseph Fielding Smith
- Orson Pratt
- Morgan Philpot – an ex-lawyer politician who points out scripture parallels of our time and the failure of our political ways to match the Lords ways. Philpot is the Jonathan Cahn of Mormonism, finding historic parallels with LDS events and LDS scripture.
- Micah English “The II LDS Archives”. See also his Zion or Bust group in Discord.
- Blake Surerus “Defending Zion” (now on Discord only)
- Rod Meldrum BookofMormonEvidence.com
- James T Prout

Teachers: Science

- Universal model textbooks by Dean sessions universalmodel.com
- Russell M Nelson
- Bruce R McConkie
- David Barker (Science & Religion: Resolving the Conflict)
- Kent Hovind (though disregard his protestant dogmas against the saints)
- Ken Ham

Teachers: Book of Mormon Heartland Geography

- Joseph Smith
- BookofMormonevidence.org by Rod Meldrum (a few others on his site)
- Russell M Nelson & L Tom Perry have made statements affirming this.

-Jonathan Neville

-Wayne May

-David Hocking Annotated Book of Mormon

Teachers: History & Government

-Ezra Taft Benson

-J Reuben Clark

-Timothy Ballard

-Hugh W Nibley

-Joel Skousen

-Cleon Skousen

-David Barton-Brian Mechem latterdayconservative.com -Kate Dalley <http://katedalleyradio.com/>

-Scott Bradley <http://freedomrising.sun.com/>

-BenMcClintock <https://www.defendingutah.org/>

-Stephen Pratt <https://www.libertyandlearning.com/>

-Jack Monnett (Awakening to Our Awful Situation)

-Ammon Bundy

-Ayn Rand (though disregard her dogmas against religion & God)

Teachers: Family and social studies

-Joseph Smith & Brigham Young

-Spencer W Kimball

-John Thill

-Glen Latham

-Joseph Smith Foundation by the Stoddard family

-Neal Anderson

Teachers: Education & homeschool

- Joseph Smith & Brigham Young
- Jack Monnett
- Hugh Nibley



Teachers: Business, Finance, Economics

- Hugh Nibley
- Ezra Taft Benson
- Mark Skousen The Making of Modern Economics

Teachers: Health

- Ann Blake Tracy drugawareness.org (against SSRIs)
- Jane Birch discoveringthewordofwisdom.com latter-day saint perspective of WFPB
- Dr. Joel Fuhrman
- Dr. Neal Barnard
- Dr. Michael Gregor
- Dr. Michael Clapper

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Seek Learning Out of The Best Books

Sections

Scriptures
Religious Doctrine
Life of Joseph Smith
Religion Manuals
Religion & Temples in Antiquity
End Times Prophecy
Marriage & Parenting
Education
Government
Conspiracy
History
Economics
From the Reformation
Classical Literature
Poetry
Science
Nutrition



~3 Books of Each Genre Suggested by Dr. Peter Kreeft

Kreeft is a brilliant and bold Catholic professor of philosophy and does much work in Christian apologetics. He is both humble and instructive. He says the problem why the humanities keeps getting worse is that people deny objective truth, bravo Kreeft!

The follow texts he suggests are not all by Catholic authors, only a handful are.

See the full lecture from which this list is derived at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLm5RggbhIE&list=LLu0lqitLzCtL1eZkAAMuOCQ>

Kreeft has authored several books as well.

He selected these to be not too difficult but difficult enough to be challenging.

The material in parenthesis are also analysis and commentary by Kreeft from the lecture.

Above all of these, he says The Bible is the best book!

Autobiographies

-Confessions, by Augustine with translation by Sheed

-A Severe Mercy, by Sheldon Vanauken

-Seven Story Mountain, by Thomas Merton

-Surprised by Joy, by CS Lewis

(CS Lewis is his favorite modern author)

Novels

- The Brothers Karamazov, by Fyodor Dostoevsky
(says novels are the best way to learn psychology and sociology, they're more tangible, and that Dostoevsky does this masterfully)
- Till We Have Faces, by CS Lewis
- A Tale of Two Cities, by Charles Dickens

Plays

- A Man For All Seasons, by Robert Bolt (the movie very good too)
- Our Town, by Thornton Wilder (looks at life from the perspective of death)
- Hamlet, by William Shakespeare

Epics

- Lord of the Rings, by J.R.R. Tolkien
(says it's the greatest book of the century, defends western civilization)
(movie good but not as good as the book)
(He says everyone agrees on these books being great except the literary critics, which shows the critics are full of themselves)
(says when he feels something is missing in his life, its that he hasn't read these recently enough)
- Chronicles of Narnia, by CS Lewis
(all 7 are a great achievement.)
(He makes Christ character very interesting, which is very hard to do. He is terrifying but good, just like Christ)
- Silmarillion, by J.R.R. Tolkien

Fantasy

- The Great Divorce, by CS Lewis (Like divine comedy of Dante but clearer and shorter.)
- The Screwtape Letters, by CS Lewis
- Descent into Hell, by Charles Williams (terrifying psychology of damnation)

Science Fiction

- A Canticle for Leibowitz, by Walter Miller
- Brave New World, by Aldous Huxley (the BNW is stable but not happy)
- The Martian Chronicles, by Ray Bradbury
- says 50 years old and 100 years old are 2 good science fiction books.
- says he doesn't like technology it bores him.

Spirituality

- The Practice of the Presence of God, by Brother Lawrence
- Story of a Soul: The Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux
- Abandonment to Divine Providence, by de Caussad
- The passion of the Christ an amazing movie

Apologetics

- Pensees, by Blaise Pascal
- The Problem of Pain, by CS Lewis (on why evil exists and God)
- In Defense of Miracles, by CS Lewis (on nature science and God)

Philosophy

- The Apology of Socrates, by Plato
- The Consolation of Philosophy, by Boethius
- Republic, by Plato

Popular Philosophy

- The Introduction to Thomas Aquinas, by G.K. Chesterton
- Orthodoxy, by G.K. Chesterton (its about everything, a masterpiece)
- Ethics, by Aristotle

History

- The Everlasting Man, by G.K. Chesterton
- Our Lady of Guadalupe: And the Conquest of Darkness, by Warren Carroll
- The City of God, by Augustine

Theology

- Mere Christianity, by CS Lewis (unites many branches of Christians; inexhaustible)
- Summa Theologiae, by St. Thomas Aquinas, with a condensed, edited version by Peter Kreeft called “Summa of the Summa”
- The Theology of the Body, by Christopher West (theology against sexual revolution, perhaps Satans chief weapon, great for our time in particular)

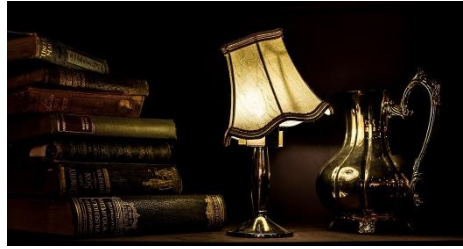
Poetry

- Lepanto, by G.K. Chesterton (good sound & sense, unlike modern poetry)
- The Waste Land, by T.S. Eliot
- The Dream of Gerontius, by John Henry Newman (on dying and going to heaven)

A few mentions from Kreeft from the lecture:

The greatest discoveries are found by asking dumb questions

You can't force one to cry. Tears mean it's a great author.
The job description of a great artist is to break the human heart.



He likes short books.

Says those who are passionate even going in the wrong direction God can work with; its easier to turn them around than to get someone not moving at all to get going. This is how it was for Alma and Paul. God wants energetic passionate servants.

[Away Babylon Textbooks, Here are Best Books to Re-Read Through Life: Introduction](#)

Here we will consider several books which ought to be read and re-read though life. First a few quotes on reading the best books time and again:

“[Education] has produced a vast population able to read but unable to distinguish what is worth reading.” (George Macaulay Trevelyan, *English Social History: A Survey of Six Centuries, Chaucer to Queen Victoria* (London: Longmans, Green and Company, 1942), 582.)

“Clearly one must read every good book at least once every ten years.” (Lewis, letter of 17 August 1933, in *Letters to Greeves*, 458.)

“The sure mark of an unlitery man is that he considers “I’ve read it already” to be a conclusive argument against reading a work. . . . Those who read great works, on the other hand, will read the same work ten, twenty or thirty times during the course of their life.” (C. S. Lewis, chapter 1, paragraph 4, in *An Experiment in Criticism* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1982), 2.)

Well did someone say that the mark of a truly educated man is knowing which books NOT to read.

Best Books: Scripture

- The Holy Bible (canon)
- The Book of Mormon (canon)
- The Doctrine and Covenants (canon)
- The Pearl of Great Price (canon)
- Semi-Annual General Conference (not canon but close)
- Journal of Discourses (not canon but close)

Best Books: Religious Doctrine

- Lectures on faith by Joseph Smith
- Teachings of the prophet Joseph Smith
- Doctrines of Salvation by Joseph Fielding smith
- Jesus the Christ by James E Talmage
- Discourses of brigham young
- The Miracle of Forgiveness by Spencer W Kimball
- Faith peceeds the miracle by Spencer W Kimball
- The Messiah series by bruce R mcconkie
- Mormon Doctrine by Bruce R Mcconkie
- Approaching Zion by high Nibley
- Autobiography of Parly P Pratt
- Life everlasting by Duane S Crowther
- The Lord's way by Dallin H Oaks
- Brother Brigham Challenges the Saints by High Nibley
- Doctrines of the Kingdom series by hyrum andrus
- ???BH Roberts Defender of the Faith by Truman G Madsen
- The Infinite Atonement by Ted R Callister
- Angels by Donald Parry
- Echos and Evidences of The Book of Mormon by Donald Parry
- Life of Wilford Woodruff
- Autobiography of BH Roberts
- Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis
- History of the Saints

Best Books: Life of Joseph Smith

- The Teachings of Joseph Smith by Joseph Fielding Smith
- They Knew the Prophet by Hyrum Andrus
- History of the Church by Joseph Smith
- The Personal Writings of Joseph Smith by Dean C Jessee
- The Life of Joseph Smith the Prophet by George Q Cannon
- Lucy Mack Smith book on Joseph Smith

There are also books and authors to avoid who say they are faithful saints but yet use unfaithful sources in their writing. Chief of these is Richard Bushman's "Rough Stone Rolling". Also beware Leonard Arrington's work. See "Faith Crisis" vol. 1 and 2 by Hannah & James Stoddard available at josephsmithfoundation.com to purchase the volumes. These identify apostate writers in sheep's clothing who give as much or more credence to the words of criminals and apostates in their writings as they do the brethren, and they paint false negative pictures of Joseph Smith and the miraculous divine nature of the restoration.

Best Books: Christian Persecution

- The Heavenly Man by Brother Yun
- God's Smuggler by Andrew van der Bijl
- Tortured for Christ by Richard Wurmbrand

-Words of Joseph Smith, a collection of Nauvoo discourses by Joseph Smith

-The Pastor's Wife by Sabina Wurmbrand

-I Found God in Soviet Russia by John H. Noble

-These Are The Generations by Eric Foley

-Hearts of fire by The Voice of the Martyrs

-Into the Den of Infidels, a collection of Muslim conversion stories by Voice of the Martyrs

-Captive in Iran by Maryam Rostampour and Marziyeh Amirizadeh, and their experience in Evin Prison

-Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus by Nabeel Qureshi

-The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom

-I Dared to Call Him Father by Bilquis Sheikh

-Restricted Nations series by The Voice of the Martyrs

-Tortured for His Faith by Haralan Popov

-I Will Die Free by Humberto Noble Alexander

-The Persecutor by Sergei Kourdakov

-God's Double Agent by Bob Fu

-Vanya: A True Story by Myrna Grant

-The Voice of the Martyrs (Magazine, free monthly)

(Special thanks to Leah Stoddard for her list in "A Christlike Home" book)

Best Books: Religion Manuals

- Gospel Principals Manual
- Preach My Gospel Guide to Missionary Service
- Teachings of the Presidents of the Church (series)
- Institute Manuals for adults on the
 - standard works
 - exaltation
 - marriage
 - parenting
 - finance
 - industry
 - doctrines of the gospel
 - teachings of the living prophets
 - etc.
- Seminary manuals for youth

Best Books: Religion & Temples in Antiquity

- The World and the Prophets by Hugh Nibley
- The Message of the Joseph Smith Papyri by Hugh Nibley
- Temples of the Ancient World by Donald Parry

Best Books: End Time Prophecy

- Signs of the Times by Joseph Fielding Smith
- Prophecy Key to the Future by Duane S Crowther
- The Millennial Messiah by Bruce R. McConkie
- Coming of the Lord by Gerald Lund (a new version just came out)
- As a Thief in the Night by Roger K Young
- Understanding the Signs of the Times by Donald Parry

Best Books: Marriage & Parenting

- Positive parenting by Glenn Letham
- Strengthening Marriages and Families: Proclamation Principles and Research Perspectives
- Stand for Family by Sharon Slater
- Women and the Priesthood by Rodney Turner
- Teaching Self-Government by Nicholeen Peck (uses Joseph Smith principles and applies them to parenting)

- The Connected Parent: Real-Life Strategies for Building Trust and Attachment by Lisa Qualls and Dr. Karyn Purvis
- The Connected Child: Bring Hope and Healing to Your Adoptive Family by Karyn B. Purvis, David R. Cross, et al.

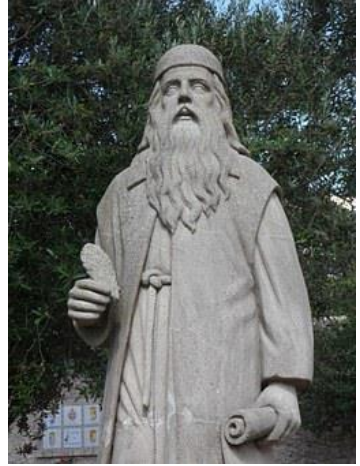
- John Gottman, a renowned researcher of marriage relationships & parenting, has written many books.
- The Nurtured Heart Approach ?
- A House United ?
- The Choice/ Principles of Leadership ?
- The Child Whisperer by Carol Tuttle ?
- Papa married a Mormon ?

Best Books: Education

- Joseph Smith America's Greatest Educator
- Revealed Educational Principles by Jack Monnett
- The Deliberate Dumbing Down of America by Charlotte Thompson Iserbyt
- Child Abuse in the Classroom by Phyllis Shlafley
- Teach Ye Diligently by Boyd K Packer
- None Dare Call it Education by John Stormer

Best Books: Government

- Founding US documents
- The Federalist Papers
- The Naked Communist by Cleon Skousen
- Tragedy and Hope by Carol Quigley
- 1984 by George Orwell
- Brave new world by Aldous Huxley
- Principles of freedom and national survival
- Lessons on liberty by Brian Meham
- The American Covenant series by Timothy Ballard
- To Preserve the Nation by Scott Bradley
- The Great and Abominable Church of the Devil by H Verlan Andersen
- Prophecies and Promises by Porter and Meldrum
- The Majesty of God's Law by Cleon Skousen
- The Making of America by Cleon Skousen
- The Real Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin series by Parry, Allison, & Skousen
- The 5000 Year Leap by Cleon Skousen
- The Politically Incorrect Guide to the Presidents series by Schweikart & Heyward
- Everything written by Ezra Taft Benson
- Montesquieu (inspired the founding fathers)
- Locke (inspired the founding fathers)
- Hobbes (inspired the founding fathers)
- The Magna Carta (inspired the founding fathers since that was the first known constitutional document written)



Best Books: Government Conspiracy

- Hiding in Plain Sight by Ken Bowers
- None Dare Call it Conspiracy by Gary Allen
- Awakening to our Awful Situation series by Jack Monnett

Best Books: History

- The Making of America by Cleon Skousen, written at the request of President David O. McKay
- Empires that Shook the World by Andrew Taylor
- The King fisher Illustrated History of the World
- Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom
- Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington ?
- History of the Saints
- Foxes Book of the Martyrs
- The History of Christianity
- books by Erik Larson for supplemental history such as Devil in the White City ?
- American History Stories you never read in school ... But should have. By Mara L. Pratt Vol. 1&2 ?
- Politically Incorrect Guide Series

-Here's a Christian bookstore, a page on their suggested history curriculum: [Homeschool History Curriculum - Christianbook.com](http://HomeschoolHistoryCurriculum-Christianbook.com)

Best Books: Economics

-Capitalism by Ayn Rand

-The Making of Modern Economics: The Lives & Ideas of the Great Thinkers by Mark Skousen

Best Books: From the Reformation

-Foxes book of the martyrs

-History of the Christian Church by Samuel Cheetham

Best Books: Classic Literature

-Divina Comedia by Dante

-Don Quixote by Miguel Cervantes

-Candide by Voltaire

- Faust by Goethe (2 Vols.)
- Parzival
- Odyssey by Homer
- Aeneid by Virgil
- The Three Musketeers by Alexander Dumont: great adventure and philosophy
- Phantom of the Opera, about what happens when we treat people like monsters, & despair, & passion
- Crime and Punishment
- everything by Jane Austen
- everything by Charles Dickens
- everything by Shakespeare

JANE AUSTEN:

- Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen
- Emma by Jane Austen
- Persuasion by Jane Austen
- Pride & Prejudice by Jane Austen

DICKENS:

- Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
- Bleak House by Charles Dickens
- A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
- Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens
- Davy Copperfield by Charles Dickens

SHAKESPEARE:

- Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare
- Mid Summer Nights Dream by William Shakespeare
- Hamlet by William Shakespeare
- Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare
- King Lear by William Shakespeare
- The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare
- Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

-Little Britches Series ?

-The Hunchback of Notre Dame by Victor Hugo
-Les Misérables by Victor Hugo (great story of redemption, a man who chooses righteousness despite persecution)

-The Portrait Dorian Gray (great story of why to not be a narcissist)
-The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde (great story of why to not abuse substance)

-Sherlock Holmes?
-Beau Geste?
-To Kill a Mockingbird?
-Little Women

-HG Wells sci-fi ?

-Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy

-War & Peace by Leo Tolstoy

-The Pilgrim's Progress

-Nathaniel Hawthorne: The Scarlet Letter

-Charles Dickens

-Jane Austen

-Emily Bronte

-Charlotte Bronte

-F Scott Fitzgerald: The Great Gatsby

-Leo Tolstoy: Anna Karenina, etc.

-Mark Twain

-Herman Melville

-William Faulkner

-George Eliot

-Louisa May Alcott: Little Women

-Miguel De Cervantes: Don Quijote

-Robert Louis Stevenson: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

-EM Forester

-Victor Hugo

-John Bunyan: pilgrim's progress

-Daniel Defoe: Robinson Crusoe

-Jonathan Swift: Gulliver's Travels

-Alexandre Dumas: The Count of Monte Cristo

-Homer: Odessey

-Virgil: Aenead

-Dante: Dinina Comedia

-James Joyce: Ulysses; The Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

-Ayn Rand: Atlas Shrugged, The Fountainhead, etc.

- Aldous Huxley: Brave New World
- George Orwell: 1984, Animal Farm, etc.
- William Golding: Lord of the Flies
- Thomas Moore: Utopia
- Carroll Quigley: Trajedy & Hope
- Bram Stoker: Dracula
- Paulette Collet: Le Famtome de l'Opera
- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: Sherlock Holmes
- Robert Louis Stevenson: children stories, treasure island etc.
- Jonathan Swing: Gulliver's Travels
- Thomas Bulfinch: Bulfinch's Mythology

Best Books: Poetry

- Wordsworth
- Robert Frost
- LDS Best Loved Poetry book
- Keats ?
- Milton ?
- EE Cummings ?
- 1828 Webster's Dictionary (has original words that are not listed today. Useful in understanding literature. It is more comprehensive as well.)

Best Books: Science

- Universal Model textbook series by Dean Sessions
- Using the Book of Mormon to Combat Falsehoods in Evolution by Clark A Peterson
- Mathematicians are people too (2 vols) ?
- The fallacy detective (a logic book) ?
- The eternal argument for literature ?
- The story of mathematics ?

Best Books: Nutrition

- Eat to Live by Joel Fuhrman
- How to not die by Michael Gregor
- Voices of the Food Revolution by Robbins
- The China Study by Campbell
- Is There Any Sick Among You? By LeDean Griffin
- Back to Eden by Jethro Kloss

Best Books: Psychology

- Spiritual Exodus by Mark Butler
- Turning Freud Upside Down by BYU Studies
- Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde

-Portrait of Dorian Gray

Best Books: Philosophy

- Classics of Western Philosophy edited by Steven M. Cahn
- The Story of Philosophy by Will Durant
- Jordan Peterson's Maps of Meaning & 12 Rules for Life

Best Books: Textbooks

Textbooks are typically 90 percent fluff, and are narrowly constrained by a grade-age system.

Here are some ideas for books from some friends of mine that are no nonsense:

-CS Lewis' essay Men Without Chests. It's not super long, but it helped me clarify what I want in an educational book

-Living books; classics. Don't use textbooks, they are corrupted with progressive ideology and false paradigms.

-curriculum that use real books like Book Shark and Moving Beyond the Page. They are on the pricy side but you can also just

buy the workbooks and get most of the other books from the library.

-Brigham Young said that the scriptures should be the textbooks for Latter Day Saints.

-Kimber Curriculum:

<https://kimbercurriculum.com/?v=7516fd43adaa> There is an actual school in Lehi, Ut and online school but you are welcome to just buy the books. The history and religious studies are amazing with real and true information, nothing sugar coated. The Sciences all require much study and reflection. Children look up terms in secular books and also scripture. It really brings God back into their studies uniting science and religion. In the Junior Physiology for instance, compares the body systems to “body kingdoms” and teach the importance of both physical and spiritual aspects of our bodies.

- math text books from the early 90's. Beyond that date the math texts are very watered down. I love a strong, difficult math course to enhance thinking skills. Try Prentice Hall. Of course skip outdated technology parts.

- Life of Fred math books

-The Making of America by Cleon Skousen, written at the request of President David O. McKay.

-Saxon Math

-I prefer classics not text books. That includes God's first classic-nature. And his second classic, the scripture and words of the prophets.

Then build on this foundation with classics in the arts, literature, and history.

Then Hands-on practical intellectual skills in a mastery format. Working from foundational concrete hands on to the more abstract as they are ready.

Versions of the Talmud

Some information on the versions of the Talmud a friend shared with me:

As far as translations of the Talmud, you first have to realize that you can spend hundreds or thousands of dollars for complete editions. Here is my thoughts on each major set.

The best copy of the Talmud is the

Complete Full Size Schottenstein Edition of the Talmud English Volumes (73 Volume Set)

Current Price: \$2500

This is by far the best edition ever printed. The Aramaic text is presented on one page with the translation on the alternate. It is considered the best edition but with that price I could never justify buying it.

Next is the...

Koren Talmud Bavli (38 Volumes)

This is a good edition to start with because it contains a ton of commentary with pictures and diagrams to help you understand. It is sold as individual volumes about \$40 each. So the price is about \$1,520.

Next...

Soncino Hebrew/English Babylonian Talmud (30-Volume Set)

This is another excellent translation with the original language and the English. I don't know much about it besides it costs around \$900.

Next...

Rodkinson Talmud.

This Talmud is a 1903 translation. It is incomplete but is about 20 volumes. This translation is not only old, but it is controversial because the translation is very poor and inaccurate. It is available online for free and a print copy might cost \$300-\$500 dollars.

I personally have a copy of Jacob Neusner's

The Babylonian Talmud: A Translation and Commentary (23 Volumes)

Current Price: \$650

This is the copy owned by BYU's library. It is good scholarly translation but a little unconventional with how the mishnah and

gemara are presented. I could send you pictures of it if you are interested.

I got mine for \$100 a while ago so the price does go up and down.

That about does it for complete or almost complete editions of the Talmud.

You can also get abridgments such as the

Everyman's Talmud: The Major Teachings of the Rabbinic Sages
- \$20

Or

The Talmud: A Selection (Penguin Classics) - \$20

If you do not know much about the Talmud these volumes might be a good place to start.

The Talmud is, at its core, a legal text. It can be super dull, but rewarding if you like to spend hundreds of hours to understand Jewish legalism of the 2nd- 5th century AD.

Editions of the Talmud go up and down in price a lot, so if you wait, you can get a edition for a much more reasonable price. I got my copy for \$100 after months of looking.

Teen Books Recommended by The Joseph Smith Foundation

<https://josephsmithfoundation.org/teen-recommended-book-list/>

Various Book Suggestions

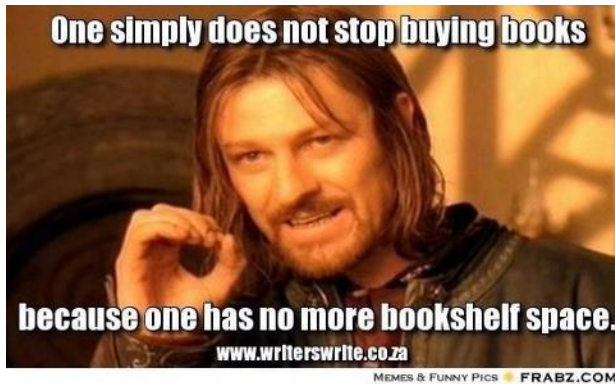
[Books That Make Us Human ~ The Imaginative Conservative](#)

Resources to Build Your Library

- Libraries of Hope <https://www.welleducatedheart.com/>
- heterodoxacademy.org shows that the social sciences are increasingly bias toward liberal views
- britannica.com
- Online Liberty Library - free pdf etc. - oll.libertyfund.org
- librivox.org - free public domain audiobooks
- archive.org - free public domain texts, movies, audiobooks
- largepdf.com – good source for public domain books in PDF free
- survivorlibrary.com (public domain PDF book downloads on many topics)
- openculture.com/freeonlinecourses - Free Online Courses from Top Universities (movies, eBooks, audiobooks, textbooks, language lessons, business courses, K-12 Ed, etc.)
- Deseret Industries books
- Good Will books – see also website with virtually free shipping

- Gutenberg project (Puts in the public domain books written over ~100 years ago),
- Provo Library book sales (approximately quarterly),
- free podcasts (from iTunes etc.);
- garage sales.
- “For Dummies” books are also excellent introductions to many topics.
- For legal inexpensive movies: wowboxx.com
- For legal and inexpensive music: mp3million.com
- Overdrive is an audiobook rental app which is free when you sign up associated with a local library membership.
- Reading lists for various ages

<http://www.hearthstoneplan.org/reading-lists.html>



MOVIES

Suggested Movie Titles

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." 1 Peter 3:5



By Nate Richardson

Published at RichardsonStudies.com

Likely add the extended movie commentaries from rec bk

Some Religious Films

Times & Teachings of Joseph Smith

The Bible, Epic Miniseries – this gets pretty violent, but I've not seen it all yet

An Unlikely Mormon: the conversion story of Glen Beck

The Best Two Years – about some lazy missionaries who learn again the meaning of their message when a bright young motivated Elder comes to work with them. Funny and great movie.

Time Changer – preachers go into the future and see how the world became wrecked in our day by people leaving out the name of God from things

The Case for Christ

Singles Ward – pretty good but I'm not a fan of the excessive kissing scene of 2 unmarried people (not that any excessive kissing should exist in any movie)

The Bells of St. Mary's ?

God's Not Dead – 3 movies. Mostly good stuff, a few bogus things like Christian rock band, Christian women in short shorts, and a few other silly ideas. But it does have a lot of good faith promoting stories.

Brigham Young – an old black and white film. Pretty good but overly emphasizes supposed doubts of Brigham about his calling and the keys of the church.

End of the Spear: A True Story – of a Christian missionary persecuted abroad

Most Highly Recommended Religious Films

The Work & the Glory: 3 Movie Trilogy

Jane & Emma

Karol: 1 and 2. About pope growing up in Poland at WW2 time and the intense persecutions they endured, how it impacted their family, and how they learned to rise above the hate.

The Testaments of One Fold and One Shepherd – very good, but the movie creator later discovered that the Book of Mormon took place in the heartland of America with the Adena and Hopewell Indians, rather than central America, where the movie is depicted. But it remains a great movie telling the story of the Book of Mormon.

Hidden Bloodlines

Nephites in Europe

Joseph Smith: More than we Know

(list other JSF)

17 Miracles

Come Unto Me – short church production about Christ

Legacy – church production about pioneers, fun story and very well done

The Story of Ruth – great old movie. Shows importance of knowing the commandments, and teaches the true story of scripture.

The Ten Commandments – Cecil DeMille – uses LDS ordination method – greatest movie of all time

Book of Mormon Videos – by the church

Bible Videos – by the church

Emma Smith My Story

Against All Odds: Israel Survives – shows the miracles preserving God's people in Israel in modern times

The Living Scriptures – consider listing all titles pasting from site?

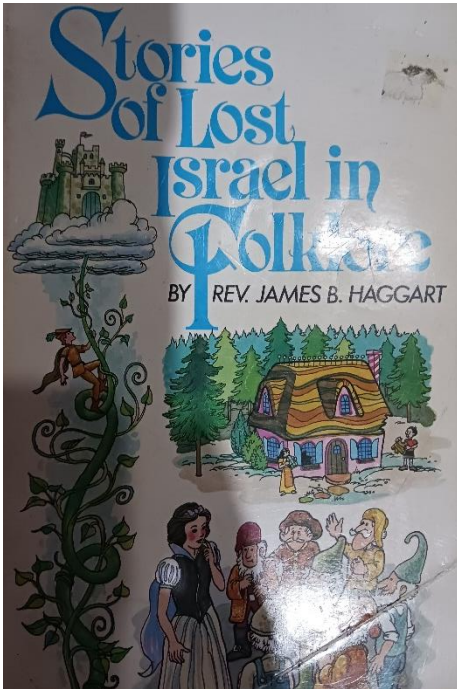
These guys make tons of amazing kids shows and even some adult ones on restoration topics.

Not so Great Religious Films

Witnesses – this movie shows some false teachings of church history like Joseph being out of control, and doubtful, and using a stone in a hat to translate. The stone hat story is being adopted by many in the church, but it is typically a story making fun of him, based on false testimony of David Whitmer.

Buttercream Gang – about a youth group who go around helping in the community. There are a few movies.

Book Highlights: Stories of Lost Israel in Folklore by Rev. James B. Haggart



STORIES OF LOST ISRAEL IN FOLKLORE

By Rev. James A.B. Haggart

CONTENTS

I - SNOW WHITE	Page 7
II - SLEEPING BEAUTY	Page 15
III - CINDERELLA	Page 25
IV - HANSEL & GRETHEL	Page 35
V - JACK & THE BEAN STALK	Page 47
VI - LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD	Page 59
VII - SNOW-WHITE & ROSE RED	Page 69
VIII - THE TWELVE BROTHERS	Page 83
IX - THE ENCHANTED STAG	Page 89
X - THE FROG KING	Page 95
XI - THE SEVEN RAVENS	Page 101
XII - APPENDIX	Page 121

Titles from our library sorting in – from ‘lit’ binder

Movie: Mully - Orphanage Creation Hero

<https://m.imdb.com/title/tt3379352/>

Darby O’Gill and the Little People – fun story and teaches good values

The American Girls

Bleak House 2005 BBC – Charles Dickens – teaches to be honest and forgiving

Faerie Tale Theatre – does some old stories well

The Legend of Johnny Lingo

Sylvester? Horse

Secretariat? Horse

Daces with Wolves

Much Ado About Nothing

TV Series - General

Andy Griffith – keeps things in traditional values, comical. A sheriff who serves the community and cares for his son.

Hogans Heroes – comical heroes of wartime

Berkeley Square? - Victorian

Cranford? - Victorian

Veggie Tales – for small children, teaches bible stories

Not advised TV Series which some have adopted:

I love Lucy – fun but useless. Main character is obsessed with Hollywood movie stars. Innocent but useless.

Some proper but useless popular movies to avoid,
merely amusing and teach nothing

Little rascals

Considering

Old Sherlock Holmes

Perry Mason Detective – TV series - Thomas Monson was very fond of this

Sorting, but highly recommended

A Man for All Seasons – righteous lawyer Sir Thomas More defends Christianity
in the face of a wicked ruler

Love Comes Softly – 3 movies

Alone Yet Not Alone

The Sound of Music

The ultimate Gift

The ultimate Life

Courageous

Fireproof

My Fair Lady

Joan of Arc 2016

Les Misérables 1998 Liam Neeson

Gandhi 2007

Amish Grace

Turn Around – Based on the Story of Alma the Younger

Gifted Hands – true story of Ben Carson. Boy from ghetto reforms into Christian medical doctor. His mother sees the value of reading and requires them to read rather than watch TV, and the boy blooms into brilliance.

Wholesome but not particularly brilliant

Mandie and the Secret Tunnel

To Kill a Mockingbird

Christmas

Christmas Oranges

Muppets Christmas Carol

Disney Christmas Carol – with Jim Carrey – reviewing

Scrooge – with Albert Finney – very good. Brilliant ghost of present roasts him, and we see him descend to hell before his redemption

Charles Dickens

Oliver! – the musical. Very fun and instructive.

Oliver Twist – with Elijah Wood – good

Jane Austen

Demonstrating Toxic Effects of Substance Abuse

Walk the Line – Johnny Cash – not for children

Beautiful Boy – not for children. See my through analysis.

[Introduction to Movie Selection Philosophy](#)

“That which does not edify is not of God, and is darkness.” D&C 50:23

It has been said that a movie is like a vision, and can teach 10x more in 10x less time.

James Stoddard taught that all movies are for either Satan or Christ, and that even some G rated movies are for Satan.

Movies can be great teaching tools to learn true history, true heroes, and a Christian and worthwhile life of service to one’s fellows, and making the most of one’s talents.

Movies can also introduce us to evil and teach us to justify sin.

Movies should expose evil, and show that consequences of bad behavior are in fact bad.

It's not enough for a show to be fun, it needs to support good strong high moral behaviors. Righteous heroes, etc.

Here I will list some titles which are all good, but remember to focus on those which are best.

A very important key is this: are your kids (and yourself obviously) spending most of their time with things that aren't really instilling good values and knowledge, or are those more frivolous things only occurring very rarely? What does your movie library consist of, mostly the fluff?

My hope in listing these movies is primarily to raise awareness that there are movies out there for children youth and adults which not only entertain, but teach Christian values of chastity service forgiveness etc., which will help us culturally leave babylon and build zion with full purpose of heart.

A secondary purpose of this book is to expose some movies which some may be ignorant as to the dangers of.

Christian Persecution

- China Cry (1990)
- For Greater Glory (2012)
- On Wings of Eagles (2016)
- The Printing (1990)
- Tortured for Christ (2018)
- Sabina: Tortured for Christ – The Nazi Years (2022)
- Bamboo in the Winter (1991)
- The Least of These (2019)
- Polycarp (2015)
- Bless You, Prison (2002)
- Behind the Sun (1995)
- Gold Through the Fire (1987)
- Flame in the Wind (1971)
- God's Outlaw (1986)
- The Radicals (1989)
- Sarah's Trail of Blood (2007)
- Free Burma Rangers (2020)
- The Insanity of God (2016)
- Messenger of the Truth (2013)

(Special thanks to Leah Stoddard for her list in "A Christlike Home" book)

Children: Best Religion

- Animated Scripture Stories (cartoon series on Bible stories, Book of Mormon stories, and a few other prominent people)
- Prince of Egypt
- Torch Lighter series (cartoon episodes on courageous religious characters in history of the reformation, etc.)

Children: Best Liberty

- Liberty Kids (cartoon series)
- Friends & Heroes (history based cartoon series)

Children: Other

Note: Do not rob older children of development by sheltering them from movies about some of the hard lessons of real life. Movies should teach, not just entertain. This being said, be considerate of what is age appropriate.

Lassie
The Black Stallion
The Living Scriptures: Animated Stories
Davy Crocket
The Other Side of Heaven
Because of Winn Dixie (Based on the book)
The Adventures of Prince Achmed (1926)
Muppets Christmas Carol
Wallace and Gromit?
Chicken Run?
Wish Bone?
The Pagemaster (about classic literature)
Around the World in 80 Days
Young Sherlock Holmes
Tom Sawyer
Huckleberry Finn

Swiss Family Robinson
Jeremiah Johnson - western - 1972 ?

Action/Suspense/War

Valkyrie with Tom Cruise
Ben Hur
1984 (George Orwell) - black and white version
The Great Escape
Brave New World (Aldous Huxley) - space suit version
Lawrence of Arabia?
Sherlock Holmes (older not newer, the newer ones have questionable scenes)
Man in the Iron Mask
The purple rose of Cairo
The Patriot (seek edited version)
Braveheart (seek edited version)
Schindler's List (seek edited version, unrelated sex scenes)
Erik the Viking?
Hamlet - 1990
Iron Will
Elizabeth: The Golden Age - PG13 - 2007 ?
All quiet on the western front?
Gone With The Wind
Shenandoah with Jimmy Stewart

Drama

My Fair Lady
Beautiful Mind
Life is Beautiful
It's a Beautiful Life
October Sky
Patch Adams (if you skip the graduation scene)
Mr. Smith goes to Washington

Little Women (book is better, movie has less references to God, etc.)
Charles Dickens BBC Dramas
Shakespeare Dramas
Little House on the Prairie (the books are better, the videos have less references to God, etc., but these still seem like a great resource.)
When Calls the Heart
Love Comes Softly (series)
Perry Mason (one of Thomas S. Monson's favorites)
BBC Productions of literature by Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, etc.

Comedy, Fun

Note: The comedy genre in general runs the risk of being overly silly and rude. Take great caution with excess in these matters. The following are some ideas, but aren't guaranteed.

- Andy Griffith Show
- Beverly Hillbillies
- Dry Bar Comedy

- Brian Regan

- Hogan's Heroes (WW2 series)

- MASH (never seen it, heard its good)

- Studio C (BYU)

History & War

- Valkyrie with Tom Cruise
- The Great Escape
- Chicken Run (a children's version of the great escape, I don't recall if it's any good)
- Schindler's List (know where to skip or rent edited, extreme scenes)
- Hogan's Heroes (quite silly)
- MASH? (never seen it)

Musicals

Hunchback of Notre Dame – Broadway

The Sound of Music

Little Women

King and I

Seven Brides for Seven Brothers – some fuss about this one, but it's very good. The man are a bit foolish, they pay for that, and ultimately the humble win the day

Singin' in the Rain (if you skip the cake dancer immodest song)

Annie

My Fair Lady – a most excellent story of training a girl from the gutter to reform. And a man learns to have a bit more respect.

Darby O'Gill and the Little People

Les Mesrables musical (if you skip the Master in the House scene and the lovely ladies scene, excessive detail about the harsh conditions and immorality)

Les Mesrables the version with Liam Neelson, not musical, is very good, it does better at teaching the moral lessons of the story than the musical version, it shows much more compassion of the hero.)

My Fair Lady

Dance (Ballet, Irish, Etc.) (add)

Nutcracker Ballet

Giselle Ballet

Swan Lake Ballet

Don Quijote Ballet

Riverdance Irish Dances

Cinderella Ballet

Movies On Classic Literature

Sense and Sensibility - 1995

Pride and Prejudice - 2005

Gone with the Wind (but beware the swear word at the very end; a great movie, but sadly they succumbed to the pressure to put this in, the first swear word in any movie)

Scrooge - Patrick Macnee ?

Scrooge with Alfred Finney – a very good version of Dickens' Christmas Carol, that actually shows Scrooge's descent into hell.

The Damnation of Faust

Cassablanca

Its a wonderful life

Life is Beautiful

Les Mesrables - old version – Great examples of the need for redemption, forgiveness, and charity.

The Scarlet Pimpernel

The 10 Commandments by Cecil DeMille (other modern versions often wrongly portray Moses as very doubtful and angry, and overly emphasize violent encounters)

To kill a Mockingbird

Wuthering Heights - 1939

Bleakhouse - 8 hr version, BBC – Great examples of the need for forgiving others.

Edmond Druid, BBC of Dickens

Oliver Twist - BBC series – Great examples of the need for compassion.

Little Dorrit – BBC – Great heroes, great examples of humility and self sacrifice.

Other Dickens

[Movies Portraying Strong Father Figures](#)

I started putting this list together in reaction to the overwhelming surge of movies where the father is depicted as inferior, stupid, incapable, lustful, intemperate, careless, unmarried, and otherwise useless. This is certainly agenda driven.

Shenandoah with Jimmy Stewart: Shows proper courting, getting fathers permission to marry his daughter, resisting war, independent living on a farm, having a large family, standing against state welfare, standing up for a kidnapped son (taking law into his own hands when needed), going to church, commanding respect, sparing life, etc.

Les Misérables with Lian Neeson: Shows compassion for sinners, repentance, forgiveness, mild-temper, resisting tyrannical authority within reason, and much more. I might add that this version is far superior to the musical versions as it better captures the emotions of humility and grace which the story was meant to have. I fear the musical emphasizes the suffering over the compassion which was born from such suffering.

Sergeant York: The man makes it a matter of prayer before deciding to join the army.

Friendly Persuasion

A Few Recommended Disney Classics **still sorting**

Perhaps some Disney movies were good before so much corruption as we see now. Sure there are a few subliminal evils thrown in by various devious artists, but were entire programs corrupt? I'm not sure and I'm going to be taking a look at a few.

I've also heard of a book about popular stories and their roots in ancient Israelite history, which I hope to review soon.

Note that just about every movie made in the past 20 years by Disney is sure to be trash. Watch out for sequels of the originals, those like to sneak in trash agendas which weren't in the originals, back when perhaps Disney was a company about family entertainment with values, whereas now its a company about amusing children while pushing liberal anti-family and anti-religion views.

Remember that movies are endowments, and should always promote Christian family values, never just fluffy mindlessness art.

My general feeling toward most of these type of movies is that they fall pretty low on the "good better best" scale, and there are many other movies that would be doing out kids a much better service. However, since they may have some value, particularly in today's climate where traditional marriage is so thoroughly mocked, I will consider some of these original Disney movies.

Inasmuch as some of the older Disney movies portray traditional marriage and gender roles, and other positive values, there are a few good ones. Of course in the past few decades, they have had lots of agenda laden material, so be most careful.

Cinderella – good story of dreaming for better circumstances. Shows a mother who is cruel, an occasional reality. Ensure you teach the children that this is a rare scenario. Also kids could get the idea that kids shouldn't have to do chores, of course that isn't the intended meaning, so you'll have to explain that all are expected to do chores, but that of course everyone in the home should be treated as equals, and chores should be based on ability, and even small children should be expected to participate.

Snow White

Sleeping Beauty

Swiss Family Robinson

Here we go:

Page listing all Disney Films:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Walt_Disney_Pictures_films

First some most popular originals:

Cinderella - I'm not sure what value this story has. It does demonstrate a humble person finally getting rewarded for their goodness.

Classic. Every girl needs faith her prince is out there somewhere, and she's good enough the way she is.

Sleeping Beauty - Here we see a wicked witch curse a child, and a prince to save the day. This might be one of the better stories.

Snow White - here again is the wicked witch's curse, and the prince to rescue the princess. This is an important storyline and promotes traditional family. But we also have a handful of pesky fairies trying to help the cause, though I suppose this could be a symbol of positive divine/angelic intervention.

Beauty and the Beast - I'm not super fond of the romance with a beast, though a symbol of course is in it that the role of women has always been to tame and bring out the best of a strong man. A parent would need to point this out clearly to children, a message now lost of course. The female protagonist is again a humble and smart lady. Can send a false message that if you love someone enough they will change. You grow and change together in love, but changing people isn't what love is about. Could encourage someone to stay in a bad relationship.

Peter Pan - this one I'm not hugely fond of but it might be good. It was apparently originally a Scottish tale of one who missed his deceased brother and had to learn to move on. The crocodile clock is also a theme of fear of time aging and death. I don't see much value in the movie.

Questionable costumes.

The author meets random boys at a park, spends time with them, bases story on them, weird.

Little Mermaid 89 - this one was originally about a girl who disobeys her parents and pays for it by a tragic end. The movie now leaves out the tragic end, sending possibly a message to disobey parents. And I'm not sure we want this bra lady flying around 90 percent naked the whole time. Swimming these days is full of mischief, not like old times where swimwear was modest.

She goes to a witch to get what she wants.

It's unclear as to whether going to the witch was a good or a bad thing, as it turns out to indeed get her what she wants. Disney was set on making a happy ever after, the original was a tragedy.

The girl is very rebellious to her father.

Mary Poppins - this has strong family lessons, and lessons of repentance into family lifestyles. But it does mess around with some feminism and magic, though it more pokes fun at those than promotes them.

Jungle Book - there seems to be no point at all to this. Some fun songs

Pinochio - this does point out dangers of lying, and does point out dangers of cheap friends.

Now a few less known originals:

Polyanna - great , about a girl who is so positive that she convinces everyone around her to be positive

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang - there are a few good values here, a loving father, good music, etc.

man from snowy river
return to snowy river 88

20k leagues

Old Yeller - good

Swiss Family Robinson - good, teaches family values

Popeye 80 Robin Williams - some foul language, but some pro family messages

Hercules 97 - Greek mythology

muppet christmas 92
muppet treasure 96

cool runnings 93 - an underdog story. Based on true story.

Wizard of Oz - strange. Confusing plot. ?

the great mouse detective 86?

American Tales?

Newsies 92 - let's people see a part of history not well covered, and kids standing up for what they believe in, that kids can make a difference. Good songs.

Dumbo – weird?

Bambi - ?

Lady Tramp - ?

Jungle book ?

Alice Wonderland - doesn't deserve to be a classic. It's a psychedelic trip on shrooms. Doesn't teach any lessons, just weird adventures.

Dalmations 96 - ? weird, lady who wants to kill dogs, pointless

Aristocats 70 - ?

toy story 95 co produced with pixar - creepy Sid, the parents are shown to be horrible for being normal parents who want a clean house

Sword in the stone - ?

Rescuers - weird, violent, ?

Rescuers down under 90 ?

white fang 91

white fang 2 94

iron will 94

Fox hound 81 - a man who wants to kill animals and a lady who wants to protect them ?

Robin Hood 73 ? - not historically accurate. Real robin hood was more of a political activist than a forest dancer ... They just made a story of one who took from rich and gave to poor.

Lion king 94 - strange

Lion King 2 Simbas pride 98

Alladin - thief that succeeds. Could also be about someone with bad habits who learns to change. It does teach that he fails when he lies.
return jafar 94 ?

alladin king thieves 96 ?

Hunchback 96 some good music like God help the outcasts.

Mulan - promotes woman crossdressing, finds success when tries to be a boy

Pocahontas some good music about respect and tolerance.

Tarzan 99 good music, odd story. Man raised by apes and woman scientists studying the apes meet him and falls in love with him.

Now some newer titles:

Treasure planet ?

Tangled - apparently subliminal message of sex being spelled on the cover. Makes mother's looks bad.

Frozen - many subliminal homosexual messages. Turns the "here I stand" Christian reformer message into a message of doing what you

want.

Meet the Robinsons - inventor fam? Need to screen

princess diaries 01 - girl from nothing realizes she is royalty, that message could preach. She learns it's better to have friends who care than just friends with titles. Some immodesty. Dysfunctional family.

brother bear 03 ?

cars 06 a self absorbed car has to learn humility, is taught by an older more humble car

national treasure - teaches real history as it goes
2nd in 07 also good

up 09 ?

disney christmas carol 09 jim carrey

whinnie pooh 11 - the story in general has some good lessons

saving mr banks 13 ?

jungle book 16 ?

christopher robin 18 – good family values, emphasizes family time

Disney Possibilities Pending Research

mary poppins returns 18 ?

cheaper by the dozen 22 (the older cheaper by the dozen is crude and not recommended, as I recall the new one is good)

Zorro the Avenger 1959

Dragonslayer 81

shippwrecked 91

Black cauldron -

dragon slayer -older

Aladdin 19 – teaches about the need to be honest to get what matters most.

Resources on Suggested Movies

See “Zion Tube”, a website with 400+ suggested clean films, sorted by “good, better, best.” Created by Hannah Stoddard & family. [ZionTube](http://ziontube.josephsmithfoundation.org) (josephsmithfoundation.org)

