

Great, Fun Summer Movies for Your Family

By Dr. Ted Baehr

Many Christian parents are concerned about the influence of media violence on their children. The good news is that there are major movies that the whole family will enjoy that do teach faith and values.

Here are twenty that would be fun to watch and analyze as a family this summer when the children are seeking entertainment and parents are seeking to teach faith and values through powerful movie parables. Please go to www.movieguide.org for the complete review and any and all age related cautions:

1. FINDING NEMO – Our favorite animated movie from Pixar, a very funny, inspiring story about the depths of a father's love for his child.
2. THE SOUND OF MUSIC – Who can forget the lovable Maria Von Trapp played winningly by Julie Andrews as she sings about the hills being alive with music?
3. DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK – John Ford's saga starring Henry Fonda and Claudette Colbert of Americans fighting Indians and Redcoats during the Revolutionary War reminds us that America was founded on both faith and courage as well as liberty.
4. THE ROCKETEER – This 1992 movie is one of the best, most entertaining superhero movies made by Hollywood for families.
5. SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON – This 1960 Disney version of the classic novel is a great family classic for all ages to enjoy.
6. BAMBI – This animated classic for the whole family opens with an animated forest scene which redefines excellence.
7. A MAN CALLED PETER – This fine 1955 movie reveals the true story in a powerful way of a champion of the faith, Scotsman Peter Marshall, who became clergyman and U. S. Senate chaplain. Many young people went into the ministry after watching A MAN CALLED PETER.
8. DESPICABLE ME – This is a very witty, heartfelt animated movie about an extremely sinful character transformed by the prayers and love of three little girls. The ending is extremely uplifting and redemptive.
9. SERGEANT YORK – Based on the diary of Alvin York, the most decorated soldier in World War I, this moving story tells about a willful man, played by Oscar winner Gary Cooper, who comes to Jesus Christ and comes to terms with war.
10. THE LILIES OF THE FIELD – This wonderful family movie teaches the Gospel in a winsome, entertaining way that's unsurpassed by most other movies. In the story, a group of German nuns transplanted to Southwest America convince a young black man to help them build a local church.
11. THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE – Based on C. S. Lewis's popular Christian fable, tells the story of four English children, who enter the land of Narnia, where they meet Aslan, the son of the Emperor-Beyond-the-Sea, who rescues the land from the evil White Witch. Tremendously exciting, thrilling, and redemptive. 35.



Ted Baehr is Founder and Publisher of Movieguide® and Chairman of the Christian Film & Television Commission®, as well as a noted critic, educator, lecturer, and media pundit.



12. GETTYSBURG – 1993: Ron Maxwell’s epic film GETTYSBURG, based on Michael Shaara’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel THE KILLER ANGELS, dramatically depicts the three most courageous days in American history when North and South were arrayed against each other in the decisive battle fought on the Gettysburg, Pennsylvania plains.
13. FORBIDDEN PLANET – This beautifully made science fiction movie is one of the most entertaining ones ever made, with a plot adapted from William Shakespeare’s play THE TEMPEST.
14. TWENTY THOUSAND LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA – This fantastic ??? of the Jules Verne classic stars Kirk Douglas as a fun-loving sailor and James Mason as the troubled, menacing Captain Nemo.
15. THE INCREDIBLES – Pixar’s exciting superhero comedy has a great message about the importance of family.
16. LITTLE WOMEN – Both the 1933 and 1994 versions of Louisa May Alcott’s classic novel is a great experience for families and for young girls growing up to be women of substance. 38.
17. FIRST KNIGHT– This 1995 movie starring Sean Connery is a Christian version of the King Arthur Legend that is also exciting and contains unexpectedly strong Christian content. Honoring loyalty, sacrifice and God, FIRST KNIGHT demonstrates integrity and truth when King Arthur realizes that God is the King of Kings and that true leadership means serving God. 52.
18. HOOSIERS – This famous 1987 ranks as one of the favorite sports flicks of all times. Based on the true story of tiny Hickory, Indiana’s 1951 high school basketball team, HOOSIERS is a classic David versus Goliath movie.
19. TUCKER: THE MAN AND HIS DREAM – This exciting 1988 movie portrays the American Dream of free enterprise in all its glory.
20. SENSE AND SENSIBILITY – In this quintessential 1995 adaptation of Jane Austen, prudence, honor and duty triumph over emotional sensibilities

For more information on protecting your children from the influence of the mass media of entertainment by teaching them how to be media-wise, please read Dr. Ted Baehr & Pat Boone’s new book: THE CULTURE-WISE FAMILY. THE CULTURE-WISE FAMILY is available at www.movieguide.org <http://www.movieguide.org/shop>, or by calling 1-805-383-2000.



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