

FAMILY TIME FOR RECONCILIATION

There are many movies and stories that help to support the themes of reconciliation. Below is a list of popular, perennial family favorite movies and storybooks. They explore the themes of: temptation, dealing with consequences, doing the right thing, real love, redemption and repentance.

MOVIES

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE based on a story by C.S. Lewis; offers insights on redemption and overcoming evil.

WILLY WONKA AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY based on the book by Roald Dahl's book that shows consequences for poor choices and the reward of good choices.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST shows that we have second chances, chances to change, especially through the power of love.

THE SECRET GARDEN shows the transforming power of love.

PINOCCHIO deals with temptation, bad companions, conscience formation, and new life.

STORIES

THE BOOK OF VIRTUES: A TREASURY OF GREAT MORAL STORIES Edited by William J. Bennett is an anthology of poems, readings, and short stories on a number of themes, including friendship, self-discipline, responsibility, and honesty. Stories like Leo Tolstoy's "*Little Girls Wiser Than Men*" (moral: forgive and forget), an excerpt from *PINOCCHIO*, or the folk tale "*Someone Sees You.*"

THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT by Beatrix Potter ventures into the consequences of behavior.

THE STINKY SNEAKERS CONTEST by Julie Ann Peters explores not only a cheating friend but also the relationship between father and son.

ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON by Margaret Hodges is a retelling of the dramatic battle between good and evil. The Red Cross Knight risks his life to slay the dragon, save the people and bring peace and joy to the land.

THETRUE TALE OF THE THREE LITTLE PIGS by Jon Scieszka tells the famous tale from the wolf's point of view. Use it to help your child see that there is another side to the tale.

ELBERT'S BAD WORD by Audrey Wood is an hilarious book about the power of words and choosing alternative behavior or words.

LON PO PO: A RED RIDING HOOD STORY FROM CHINA by Ed Young tells the story of three girls who learn their lesson about obeying their mother.

I HATE MY BROTHER HARRY AND I HATE MY SISTER MAGGIE by Crescent Dragonwagon helps children explore sibling relationships.

SPINKY SULKS by William Stieg explores good family relations. Spink's feelings have been hurt but he refuses to accept his families apologies. The book includes the celebratory aspect of reconciliation.

OLD HENRY by Joan W. Blos is about different kinds of people learning to live together. The book introduces the possibility of compromise.

THE HATING BOOK by Charlotte Zolotow explores how a simple misunderstanding threatens a friendship.

JAMAICA'S FIND by Juanita Havill tells the story of Jamaica who finds a stuffed dog in the park. When she doesn't feel good about keeping the dog, she returns it, and finds it's true owner.

ARNIE AND THE STOLEN MARKERS and HARRIET AND THE GARDEN BY Nancy Carlson both address the subject of honesty.

LOUDMOUTH GEORGE books by Nancy Carlson provide plenty of opportunity for discussing something most kids do---make excuses.

THE HURT by Teddi Doleski tells the story of a little boy who keeps a "hurt" to himself until he finally is able to let it go through sharing his feelings and experiencing reconciliation.

LOVE YOU FOREVER by Robert Munsch is a reminder of the powerful love of a parent.

THE SHEPHERD AND THE 100 SHEEP by Michael Hudak is a retelling of the classic bible story of the good shepherd looking for the lost sheep.