



BOYS TOWN (1938)

(93 minutes)

Story: Spencer Tracy won his second Best Actor Award for his portrayal of Father Flanagan, the inspirational founder of Boys Town.

Flanagan's hope of a Boys Town (a real place in Omaha, Nebraska) begins with the tragic execution of a prison inmate who felt his life could have been different if someone had cared about him. With faith in God and faith in boys, Flanagan begins the challenging task of building a home where troubled boys can come to receive love, kindness and responsibility.

When a hardened criminal asks Father Flanagan for help in reaching his younger brother, Flanagan meets his toughest prospect in Whitey Marsh (Mickey Rooney). Through a series of events (including the delightful friendship with a young boy named Pee Wee) Whitey must decide if he wants to be a tough guy like his older brother and a good guy like the Catholic man who believes in him.

The acting of both Tracy and Rooney is outstanding. The movie is a wonderful testimonial of the life of a man who proved that love and prayer are our most powerful tools for changing hearts.

Category: Drama

Rating: Not rated

Values: Faith in God and fellowman, love, kindness, trust, responsibility

Who Might Like This: Children eight and up

Cautions: None

Cast: Spencer Tracy, Mickey Rooney

Gospel Principle: “Wherefore my beloved brethren, if ye have not charity, ye are nothing, for charity never faileth. Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all” (Moroni 7:47).