

# Heart of a Servant: The Father Flanagan Story

## Middle School Assessment

Select the best answer for each question.

### 1. What was Father Flanagan's main goal in founding Boys Town?

- To create a military training facility for young boys
  - To establish a Catholic school for wealthy families
  - To provide a home and education for homeless and troubled boys
  - To train boys to become priests
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### 2. How did Father Flanagan's approach to helping troubled boys differ from other institutions of his time?

- He focused only on religious training without practical skills
  - He believed boys were inherently bad and needed strict punishment
  - He believed in treating boys with dignity and giving them a second chance
  - He separated boys by age and never allowed them to interact
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### 3. What does the phrase "*There is no such thing as a bad boy*" reflect about Father Flanagan's philosophy?

- Boys can change and improve with proper care, support, and opportunity
  - All boys are naturally good and well-behaved
  - Boys should never be disciplined or corrected
  - Bad behavior is caused by genetics and cannot be changed
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### 4. Which of the following best explains why Father Flanagan's work was considered revolutionary for his time?

- He invented a new religion for boys
  - He refused to teach any academic subjects
  - He challenged the belief that troubled youth were hopeless and deserved punishment
  - He was the first person to open a school
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### 5. What type of environment did Father Flanagan create at Boys Town?

- A military barracks with no personal freedoms
- A family-like community where boys learned responsibility and self-respect

- A prison-like facility with harsh rules
  - A temporary shelter with no long-term support
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**6. How did Father Flanagan's background influence his commitment to helping poor and homeless boys?**

- He grew up wealthy and wanted to help others
  - His family forced him to do charity work
  - He experienced poverty and hardship himself, making him empathetic to struggling youth
  - He had no personal connection to poverty
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**7. What can be inferred about the impact of Boys Town based on its continued existence today?**

- His approach to youth rehabilitation was successful and sustainable
  - The organization only lasted a few years after his death
  - Boys Town became a prison instead of a home
  - Father Flanagan's model was ineffective and abandoned
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**8. Which statement best describes how Father Flanagan viewed the relationship between punishment and rehabilitation?**

- Understanding the root causes of problems and providing support was more effective than punishment alone
  - Harsh punishment was the only way to change behavior
  - Rehabilitation was impossible for troubled youth
  - Boys should never face any consequences for their actions
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**9. What does Father Flanagan's work suggest about society's responsibility toward vulnerable youth?**

- Only wealthy families should receive assistance
  - Society should provide opportunities and support to help young people succeed
  - Young people should solve their problems completely on their own
  - Society has no obligation to help struggling children
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**10. How did Father Flanagan's religious faith connect to his social work?**

- He only helped people who shared his religious beliefs
- His faith had no connection to his charitable work

- His religion taught him to ignore the poor
- His faith motivated him to serve others and treat all people with compassion