

PARENTING BY FAITH NOT FEAR

God does not want you living in FEAR, but in FAITH!

- **Philippians 4:6** “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God”
- Nothing = NO THING, NOT even ONE THING! Worry is the opposite of faith.
- **2 Timothy 1:7** “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”
- **1 John 4:18** “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.”

Get to the ROOT of your FEARS – Let God Pull ‘em OUT!

What was your 1st Response to Parenting?

- **Psalm 139:13** “You knit me together while I was in my mother’s womb...”
- **Hebrews 11:3** “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God...”
- If words “framed” the universe, how much more can words “frame” a life?
- **Proverbs 18:21** “Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and those who love it shall eat its fruit.”

Did your initial response to parenting bring “life” or “death”?

As parents, we must understand the importance of the words we speak about our children.

Why are you Homeschooling? (Is it because of FAITH or FEAR)?

Good Reasons for Homeschooling:

- To provide a strong spiritual atmosphere for your children
- To help a child with learning disabilities or special needs
- To tailor a child’s education to develop unique gifts, strengths and talents
- To tailor a child’s education to reflect a strong biblical worldview
- To provide a strong academic education and foundation, for God’s future purposes
- To have more time together as a family (including flexibility for traveling)
- To be a good steward of your family’s time and finances
- Because you believe it is God’s will for your family

Negative Reasons for Homeschooling: ROOTED IN FEAR

- Fear of your kids getting bad friends in school and falling away from God
- Fear of what others would think (perhaps at church or in your co-op) if you didn’t homeschool

Homeschooling K-12 is not an automatic guarantee that your kids will grow up to love and serve God. We have known Christian families with children who were educated in public or private school who are strongly serving God and happily married with a beautiful family and God-glorifying life. We have also known longtime homeschooling families with young adults who have fallen away from God. **We have to TRUST in GOD, not in HOMESCHOOLING.**

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Run to your Giant of FEAR! Run to the ROAR!

- **Job 3:25** said, “What I greatly feared has come upon me...”
- Like a shark following a trail of blood in the water, the enemy responds to fear.
- Fear is the opposite of Faith. Worry and anxiousness are “temptations” of the enemy.
- **I Samuel 27** While others were frozen in fear (looking at the size of the giant), David focused on the greatness of His God, carefully selected 5 stones and then RAN to Goliath!

5 Big Fears (and 5 “Solid Rocks” from God’s Word)

1. **FEAR of educational inadequacies:** “What if homeschooling ruins my kids for life?”

God’s Word says, “Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. –Isaiah 41:13 KJV

2. **FEAR of man:** “What are others going to think? What if I can’t measure up?”

God’s Word says, “But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.” –I Thessalonians 2:4 NKJV

3. **FEAR of danger:** “What if my kids get hurt? How can I release my kids to the Lord?”

God’s Word says, “Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He *is* the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.” –Deuteronomy 31:6 NKJV

4. **FEAR of hormones:** “How do we do this courtship/dating thing? What if my kids mess up?”

God’s Word says, “He who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” –Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

5. **FEAR of a child falling away from God:** “What if we do everything right and it’s all for nothing?”

God’s Word says, “Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence.” –Jude 1:24 NLT



Our Family’s Ministry:

Harvest Ministry (Jon & Ann Dunagan) – P.O. Box 727, Hood River, OR 97031
(winning souls, loving orphans, NETS- National Evangelism Team Support, serving churches, and motivating mission-minded families.

See harvestministry.org -- for many FREE mission-minded resources
One-year homeschooling curriculum, “MAPS for Kids VBS curriculum, audios, and YouTube videos – including a 40-Day Mission-Minded Family Challenge

See familyleadershiponline.org – for online family teachings and audios

Daring Daughters (inspiring teenage girls for missions) - daringdaughters.org
Gospel Projects International (Josh & Anna Dunagan, INDIA) - gospelprojects.org

