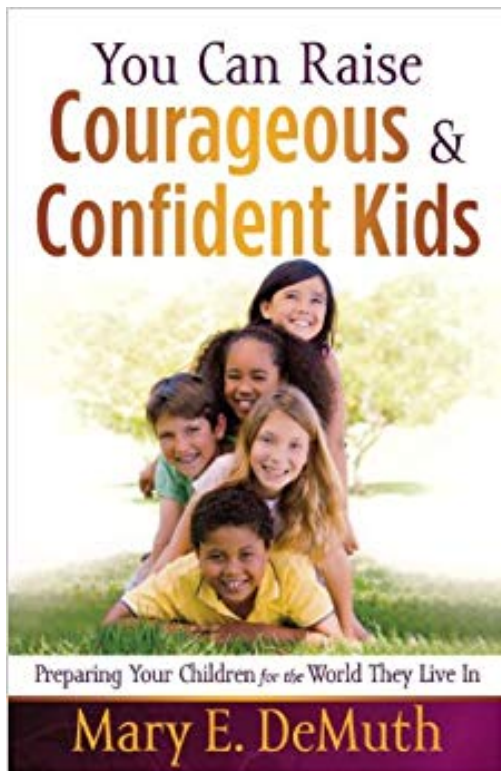


You Can Raise Courageous and Confident Kids: Preparing Your Children for the World They Live In *by* Mary E. DeMuth



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With sensitivity and a passion to help families experience authentic, life-changing relationships with God, mother of three Mary DeMuth reveals effective ways for parents to communicate with and encourage their kids. Practical ideas and illustrations guide parents to develop strong family connections, learn along with their children, and create a safe haven for kids to explore their worlds.

With a mentor's skill, DeMuth shares effective ways to raise confident kids and leads parents to:

communicate the gospel effectively to their children in a way they will understand equip their children (and themselves!) to relate successfully with others and avoid isolating themselves from those who need Christ lead their families even when they don't have all the answers

This unique resource offers everyday moms and dads the tools and encouragement they need to inspire great confidence and deep faith in their kids for all they'll encounter in the world today.

Rerelease of Authentic Parenting in a Post-Modern Culture.



Reviews of the **You Can Raise Courageous and Confident Kids: Preparing Your Children for the World They Live In** by Mary E. DeMuth

Winn

I was hooked on this book from the allegory at the beginning: "When he walked down the peopled street into the free, wild unknown, Jacob had no tools to navigate the world. He dropped his satchel and faced the confusing world lost and alone" to the very last page. Mary gives us the tools to use, so that our children will not have to feel lost and alone navigating the world.

I am a great fan of Mary E. DeMuth, both of her fiction and nonfiction. As I was reading this book, I thought how it would help so many people in the "Adult Children of Alcoholics" groups as they have had parenting at its worst. They sometimes talk about their childhood's and how they were parented. It is obvious although some have made great strides not to parent in the same way they were parented they could so benefit by Mary's books. When we have a "lost childhood" we sometimes don't know how to parent.

Many times as I was reading I wished I had grown up in the type of home that Mary is giving her children right now. Although she sometimes feels as we all do, that she fails her children at times. She has written some powerful, helpful things to steer us on in "You Can Raise Courageous and Confident Kids: Preparing Your Children for the World They Live". Mary also gives questions for group discussions at the closing of the book that could be used as a personal Bible Study. Great addendum!

The story at the end of this book showed the very best scenario and I had tears running down my face as I saw what a beautiful send-off we can give if we really get the hang of raising courageous and confident kids. It would be a great gift to give at a baby shower.

Mary is a master storyteller but she shows authenticity through brokenness and for this reason I recommend this book.

Yojin

I enjoy reading faith-based parenting books. So, it's no wonder that I was excited to hear about, receive, read, and now review *You Can Raise Courageous and Confident Kids* by Mary DeMuth (Harvest House, reprint edition, 2011).

Mary, a multi-published author and novelist, wields an impressive gift with words. Her blog constantly amazes me and relates to my very core. Her writing stirs up strong emotions with beautiful, gripping images and phrases along with practical application of God's truths.

You Can Raise Courageous and Confident Kids begins uniquely with a captivating fictional story, much different from many nonfiction books. But as she starts the next chapter providing explanation, the reader realizes how this story speaks vastly about parenting. Mary explains in the introduction that this book addresses the question, "What is a biblical, timeless view of parenting?" (page 8), especially amongst current cultural changes.

Within the first twenty pages, this book considers and tackles perplexing questions I (and probably most parents) have, especially this: how can I protect my children without making them unable to hand what the world throws at them? How can our children be confident in the world, yet unmarked by the stumbling temptations of the world to be able to courageously share the gospel with all people? I struggle with fear, so Mary's discussions here are vital to my parenting heart. She discusses the modern to postmodern cultural shift, conversational parenting, humility, and community - all while concentrating on seeking His kingdom.

One of my favorite quotes early on reads, "We must allow them to be children as long as possible, shielding them from adult themes and nurturing their innocence. But like all journeys, the parent-child adventure changes over time. Sheltering gives way to instructing and eventually to releasing" (page 29). Even though my son is young right now, I already know that this releasing taxes me.

Mary blends heartfelt personal stories with research, practical tips from her own experiences parenting, and biblical wisdom and application. She places detail into the personal stories she shares to pull the reader fully into the situation, which helps to better grasp the lessons and truths shared. The result catches your heart and intrigues your thoughts - and then refocuses it all on seeking Him to be able to parent our children.

One of Mary's main messages (which she carries over in her blog writing) is that parenting (and life) must be authentic - inside and out. Our children need to see the reality of Christ in our lives, not only through words. And we keep that modeling overflow Christ-centered by focusing our hearts on seeking Him first. Mary focuses on living life together, as a family - for Christ. She advocates depending training our children beyond the "have-to" to truly develop a personal relationship with God and delight in Him.

Mary issues some great thoughts and specific parenting tips to create an encouraging atmosphere for our children, but continually points to God's Word and Christ's example as the foundation for all of this wisdom. With her honest and relatable writing, I highly recommend this book.

*I received this book free from the author and publisher for review purposes. I was not required to write a positive review. All opinions expressed are my own.

Rigiot

As a parent I know that I "do" many things correctly and "do" many things incorrectly when it comes to raising my children. So, when a great book comes out that will encourage me and teach me as a parent I grab it and read it!

You Can Raise Courageous & Confident Kids by Mary DeMuth is a book that all parents will want to read. Mary gently but thoroughly takes us chapter by chapter through areas that may call for tough parenting but the end purpose is raising courageous and confident kids. Also, I sensed that Mary must be a parent herself since the encouragement and advice "sounds like" a seasoned parent....a parent who has been there and done that AND is passing on the learning to other parents.

Chapter 6 on page 59 spoke to me. This chapter is entitled "Conversation." There is a quote beneath the title and the quote by Marjorie Thompson states, "The Jewish family has been characterized as a 'table spirituality' in which the central feasts and holy days are celebrated around the altar of the family table." Mary talks of the family dinner table where children are encouraged to share

happenings from the day. Her family plays a game called "high-low." This where the children share the high from their day and the low. By eating together the family bonds and the children learn. A most.excellent chapter!

Actually this is one of those 5 star books that needs to be in every parents home library and passed on to new parents. I will be giving this book as a baby shower gift.

** This book would also make a great-tastic small group study book. Included, as a resource guide at the back of the book are "Notes" and "Questions for Discussion."

This book was provided for review by the author and Harvest House Publishers

Cala

This book is just excellent! A must read for every parent. She takes everyday life and applies it to how a child may respond in THIS day and age. We must teach our children how to live in the world and she does that.

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