

study guide

foreword by elisabeth hasselbeck

# parenting the wholehearted child

.....  
captivating your  
child's heart  
with God's  
extravagant grace  
.....



jeannie cunnion

study guide for

# parenting the wholehearted child

captivating your child's heart with God's extravagant grace

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Study Guide for *Parenting the Wholehearted Child*

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Based on the book *Parenting the Wholehearted Child: Captivating Your Child's Heart with God's Extravagant Grace* by Jeannie Cunnion, first printing 2014.

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Moms,  
grab some girlfriends and read this book together.  
You'll come away knowing that God isn't just crazy  
about your kids; He's crazy about you too!

~Jodie Berndt, author, *Praying the Scriptures for Your Children*

Dear friends,

I'm so thrilled you've decided to dig deeper into the good news of God's grace that is shared in *Parenting the Wholehearted Child!*

I want you to know that I am praying for you (yes, you!) as you journey through this study.

I am praying that you – in the trenches of parenthood, feeling the intense pressure to get it all right while being painfully aware of how much you are getting it all wrong – will come to know so much more of God's wild and utterly unconditional love for you on your best and worst day!

I am also praying that you will be filled to overflowing with hope. My desire is to give you the gospel of the grace of God, which will inspire you and equip you to reflect the heart of Christ in how you love and lead your children.

This is not a study on how to do more and try harder to be a better parent.

This is an invitation to BE FREE and GIVE GRACE.

This is an invitation to walk alongside your children in the freedom found in being wholeheartedly loved and liked by God in Jesus Christ!

And this is an invitation to allow the grace of God to transform your heart, and your child's heart, in ways you never dreamed possible.

By the end of this study, "I pray that you will be able to understand how wide and how long and how high and how deep His love is. I pray that you will know the love of Christ. His love goes beyond anything we can understand. I pray that you will be filled with God Himself." Ephesians 3:18-19

On that note, let's dive in!

Jeannie

## chapter 1

# hanging on by a thread

*We love because He first loved us.*

1 John 4:19

Parents can so easily get caught up in the vicious cycle of “do more, try harder, and be better to be a perfect parent raising perfect kids.” Where do you feel that pressure coming from in your own life? What keeps you spinning in the “do more” cycle?

What weaknesses has parenting revealed/magnified in your own life?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 and 2 Corinthians 12:1-11. What does the Apostle Paul teach us in these verses about how God uses our weaknesses to reveal His grace and power? What hope can these verses provide to you in your parenting?

On a scale of 1-5 (5 being the highest), how hard is it for you to believe that, in the words of C.S. Lewis, “God doesn’t want something from you, He just wants you.” Do you think your life reflects this truth? Why or why not?

Jeannie writes, “Gradually my quest to raise perfect children was transformed into a desire to raise ‘wholehearted children’—children who live from the *freedom* found in being wholeheartedly and unconditionally loved (and liked!) by God in Jesus Christ.” How is trying to raise a perfect child different from desiring to raise a wholehearted child?

On pages 27-28, Jeannie describes the difference between “perfectionist parenting” and “parenting with grace.” Note the differences in these two types of parenting, and then read 2 Corinthians 5:21. How can this good news radically change our parenting?

## chapter 2

# grace, our starting place

*Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. . . . This is how God showed His love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. . . . And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.*

1 John 4:7, 9, 16

Jeannie offers several ways to define grace. Write down the ones that most resonate with you. Is there anything you would add?

How often do you feel like God's pleasure in you and delight over you is dependent on your "performance," your choices, your good (or not so good) works? Look up the following verses and write down what Scripture says about God's grace and love being dependent on your behavior.

Ephesians 2:4-10

Romans 8:37-39

Romans 5:1-11

On pages 33-34, Jeannie lays out the very different characteristics and purposes of God's law and God's grace. Write the differences here. Then write what influence this knowledge can have on how you parent your children about growing in Christlikeness.

Jeannie writes, "Whether we realize it or not, whether we like it or not, all parents are all discipling their children. The big question is, In what are they being disciplined? Are we discipling our kids in the grace and unconditional love of Jesus Christ, or are we discipling them in the school of law and good works?" Take a moment to answer that question and explain your reason.

Jeannie says we can "proceed with hope" because we are not responsible for or capable of transforming our children's hearts. Write down what Jeannie describes as a parent's role versus God's role when it comes to producing righteous character in our children's lives.

Parent's role:

God's role:

Finish by reading what God says in Philippians 1:6-11.

## chapter 3

# he calls me beloved

I'll call nobodies and make them somebodies; I'll call the unloved and make them beloved. In the place where they yelled out, "You're nobody!" they're calling you "God's living children."

Romans 9:25 MSG

Read Galatians 2:19-21 in the Message translation. What do we learn from Paul about the freedom found in grounding our identity in Christ alone?

On pages 40-41, from where does Jeannie say our identity comes? Why is this foundational to raising a wholehearted child?

How can teaching our children about who Jesus *really* is impact their desire to trust and love Jesus? (See pages 41-42)

On page 43, Jeannie lists several verses that speak to God's delight in us, and she shows how these verses can be used to help us ground our child's identity in Christ. Write down which verses resonate most with you and note some practical ways you can share these verses with your children.

Jeannie shares about her own struggle with accepting Christ's acceptance of her. What keeps you from being able to accept God's acceptance of you in Jesus Christ? What is God's invitation to us in Hebrews 4:14-16?

On pages 48-49, what does Jeannie say keeps us from being able to give grace to our kids? And what happens when we allow grace to transform our own hearts?

## chapter 4

# experiencing Jesus

*And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*

*2 Corinthians 3:18*

What hope does Hebrews 12:2 give us about where our children's faith will come from? How will our children come to know and love Jesus, as noted at the top of page 55?

As parents most of our day is spent pouring ourselves out. And you and I know how quickly the weariness comes. Read the beautiful invitation from Christ to our weary souls in Matthew 11:28-30 in the Message translation: "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." How does accepting this invitation from Christ impact our parenting?

Read John 15:1-11. What does this verse teach must happen for us to “bear much fruit” even in the ordinary moments of motherhood? How can we be fruitful rather than just productive?

On pages 58-59, Jeannie provides three questions we can ask ourselves to help us identify some ways that we are uniquely created to abide and fill up on God’s love for us. Answer those questions now and list some of the ways you currently abide or some new ways you’d like to abide.

Jeannie introduces the five seeds of faith that we will explore in the next five chapters but before moving ahead she warns, “Planting seeds of faith is not about checking ‘righteousness boxes’ but about nurturing a trusting relationship with Jesus.” Why is this crucial to remember when leading our kids in experiencing Jesus? (Refer to page 61)

## chapter 5

# prayer

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18

What is prayer? How can we explain prayer to our children and make it feel not only accessible, but exciting, to them? (Refer to pages 64-65)

Jeannie writes, “How amazing that God invites us to join Him in the work He is doing in our kids’ hearts, not through doing more and trying harder to make fewer mistakes, but through the gift and the power of prayer.” On a scale of 1-5 (5 being the highest), how often do you rely on your effort more than prayer when desiring to see change in your kids’ hearts? Please explain your answer.

Jeannie offers several ideas for how we can help our children incorporate prayer into their life and learn how to pray anytime, anywhere, and for any reason. Identify some ways you can begin to weave prayer with your children into your daily routine.

What does the acronym “ACTS” stand for? Jeannie provides another acronym that makes the ACTS model of prayer more accessible to our children – what four words does Jeannie write can be substituted for the ACTS model which can help us engage our children in prayer?

Jesus begins the Lord’s Prayer with “*Abba, Father, Daddy.*” How does teaching our children about the intimate way in which we can call on God change how they might approach God in prayer? (See pages 72-73)

What keeps you from carrying everything to God in prayer? How does Philippians 4:6-7 guide us in this area?

## chapter 6

# Bible reading

*Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.*

Romans 10:17

From where does Romans 10:17 (above) say faith comes? What does this teach us about the importance of Bible reading for our children to grow in faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ?

Jeannie writes, “How important it is that I remember that God’s Word is not primarily about me and what I should be doing but about God and what he has already done through Christ Jesus.” How can approaching the Bible through this lens impact our child’s desire to read Scripture?

On page 78, Jeannie notes some of the wonderful things that happen in our hearts when we read the Bible. Note those things here. Now write how your heart is personally impacted by reading Scripture.

What do the stories in the Bible teach our children about God? (Refer to pages 79-80)

What can we do when our children ask hard questions about what they read in the Bible?  
(See pages 80-81)

RC Sproul says, *"I can't make the Bible come alive for anyone. The Bible is already alive. It makes me come alive."* Now read Hebrews 4:12 and Isaiah 55:11. How does this good news take the pressure off you as a parent when planting seeds of faith in your child's heart?

## chapter 7

# Scripture memorization

*I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Praise be to you, Lord; teach me your decrees.*

Psalm 119:10 – 12

Jeannie highlights three benefits of memorizing Scripture – or writing God’s Word on our heart. Write those three benefits here. What else would you add?

On pages 84-85, Jeannie notes what Scripture memory is and isn’t meant to be. Note those differences here, and then write how this knowledge can impact your child’s desire to memorize Scripture.

Read Matthew 4: 1-11. Jesus was tempted three times, and what did Jesus meet that temptation with each time? What can our kids learn from how Jesus was able to defeat Satan and temptation?

Moses instructed the Israelite people on what to do with the commandments he'd just given them in Deuteronomy 6:6-7: "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." With this in mind, list a few practical ways you can incorporate memorized Scripture into everyday life to impress God's truth on your children. (Refer to examples Jeannie offers on page 86 if you get stuck)

Vision casting (helping our kids see how they are a part of something so much bigger than themselves and how God created them for a very specific purpose) is an essential part of parenting. How does Jeannie suggest memorized Scripture is useful in vision casting for our children?

## chapter 8

# worship and community

*I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."  
Psalm 122:1*

Martin Luther said, "To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer." Do you agree? How has Christian community impacted your walk with Christ?

After reading the "Sticky Faith" research on page 96, how important do you think it is to your child's faith that your family regularly attends a place to worship? Please explain your answer.

How were you raised to understand the purpose of church? Does your experience differ from what Jeannie writes is the purpose of worship on page 96? If so, how?

If your child resists going to church, what are some of the questions you can ask yourself to get to the root of the resistance? While we cannot force our children to desire worshipping God, what can we do? (Refer to pages 98-99)

What are some ways your family can pursue Christian community other than on Sunday mornings?

## chapter 9

# service

*Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

Ephesians 5:1 – 2

Tim Keller writes, “Without the gospel of Jesus, we will have to toil not for the joy of serving others, nor the satisfaction of a job well done, but to make a name for ourselves.” With this in mind, read pages 102-104 about “Inspiring Hearts of Service” and note the key ingredients to inspiring children to live a life of serving and giving.

In 1 Peter 4:10-11 (MSG), the Apostle Peter writes, “Everything in the world is about to be wrapped up, so take nothing for granted. Stay wide-awake in prayer. Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God's words; if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and He'll get all the credit as the One mighty in everything—encores to the end of time. Oh, yes!” What is Peter revealing is the purpose of all serving? How can this be translated to our children?

Take a moment to identify and write down some of the gifts that your children possess. Then write down some of the ways your children can use those gifts to serve in your own home, in your neighborhood, in your greater community, and beyond!

What does “the friendship precedes the fruit” mean, as noted on page 109?

In the summary, Jeannie reminds us that nurturing our own relationship with Jesus through the five seeds of faith is crucial to parenting a wholehearted child. Why is this so important?

## chapter 10

# the fruit of grace

*He gives us everything we need for life and for holy living.  
He gives it through His great power. As we come to know Him better, we  
learn that He called us to share  
His own shining-greatness and perfect life.*

2 Peter 1:3 NLV

Titus 2:12 tells us that grace alone is what “teaches us to say no to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.” How can the truth in Titus – that it is the grace of God that motivates us to say no to sin and yes to obedience – inform and influence our parenting?

When training our kids to grow in Christ-like virtues, we are more likely to rely on behavior modification techniques than on the grace of God. What are some of the biggest challenges you face in relying on grace to transform your child’s heart?

Why does Jesus give us rules/commandments/laws for obedience?

Read John 10:10 on page 116. What does Jesus say the thief comes to do? What does Jesus say He comes to do? Why is this so important to teach our children? (See top of page 117)

What is Christ-like character, as described by Jeannie on page 117? How does this description relieve pressure from you as a parent to “produce” virtues in your child’s life?

What does “focusing on your child’s heart” really mean, as described on page 118-119? How is this different from behavior modification?

In talking about the fine print to parenting, what does Jeannie say is more important than modeling Christ-like character for our kids?

## chapter 11

# respect

*Exercise your freedom by serving God, not by breaking the rules. Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God. Respect the government.*

1 Peter 2:16 – 17 MSG

What is full-circle respect, as defined on page 126?

Jeannie writes, “Teaching our children about respect begins with teaching them what it means to fear the Lord.” What does fearing the Lord, as described on page 127, stir our hearts to do? What does Psalm 103:11-18 teach us about fearing the Lord?

When it comes to modeling respectful communication, what is the most meaningful thing we can do for our kids as noted on page 129? Explain why.

When our children struggle with respect, in what is it usually rooted? What are the destructive results? (Refer to page 133)

Which three practical tips/tools were most helpful to you in this chapter? (Example: “Can you hear my voice?”)

Which three (or more!) Bible verses shared in this chapter will be most helpful to you in modeling and teaching your children about respect?

## chapter 12

# self-control

*For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid,  
but gives us power, love and self-discipline.*

2 Timothy 1:7

What is patience? What are some practical ways you can model Christ's patient heart to your kids?

What is the difference between a reaction and a response? What does Jeannie suggest we need, even more than a plan, to respond rather than react?

What can we do to help our children respond rather than react? (See pages 141-143)

Jeannie writes about the gift and the power of laughter that God has given us. Do you think humor and laughter can be an effective tool when training our kids in self-control? Please explain.

Which three practical tips/tools were most helpful to you in this chapter? (Example: “Stop your words!”)

Which three (or more!) Bible verses shared in this chapter will be most helpful to you in modeling and teaching your children about self-control?

## chapter 13

# kindness

*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

Ephesians 4:32

Just like all of the virtues, one wonderful way we can inspire kindness in our children is by remembering that kindness begins with us and by modeling it to them. What are some suggestions Jeannie offers for modeling kindness to our children? (See pages 148-149)

Romans 2:4 (NLT) says, “Don’t you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can’t you see that His kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?” What does this verse teach us about the role of kindness in our parenting if we desire to reflect the heart of Christ to our kids?

Jeannie notes research that reveals how kindness flourishes when children are given the precious gift of our time. What are some (small and big) ways you can give your children the gift of time, having fun with them and enjoying them, so they learn that they are indeed enjoyable?

What are some of the negative effects that comparing and labeling have on our children? Based on some of the examples Jeannie offers on page 156, list some ways you can encourage your kids without comparing or labeling them.

Which three practical tips/tools were most helpful to you in this chapter? (Example: “Are you being kind?”)

Which three (or more!) Bible verses shared in this chapter will be most helpful to you in modeling and teaching your children about kindness?

## chapter 14

# thankfulness

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 18

Read Luke 22:7-23. What do we learn about thankfulness from Jesus in this passage? (Refer to page 160)

What does thankfulness breed? (See page 161) What would you add to this list?

Take a moment to sit with the three questions that Jeannie asks on page 162, and then list your honest answers here.

According to C.S. Lewis, what is true humility?

Read John 13:1-17. How did Jesus demonstrate extraordinary humility in this passage? What important message can we impart to our children from this passage?

Which three practical tips/tools were most helpful to you in this chapter? (Example: “Count Your Blessings.”)

Which three (or more!) Bible verses shared in this chapter will be most helpful to you in modeling and teaching your children about thankfulness?

## chapter 15

# peacemaking

*Live in peace with each other. . . . Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.*

1 Thessalonians 5:13, 15

What is a peacemaker, as defined on page 172? What other words would you use to describe a peacemaker to your children?

Jeannie writes, “To teach our children about the peace that comes from Christ, and how they can pursue peace in their relationships, we identified two main areas of focus.” What are those two main areas of focus, and how are they different from one another?

On page 173, Jeannie shares what she says to her children when teaching them about being peacemakers with each other. In your own words, write the message you want to share with your children about being peacemakers.

What are the five questions parents can ask when leading their children in “conflict resolution?”

Which three practical tips/tools were most helpful to you in this chapter? (Example: “Please tell Mommy why you are tattling on your sibling.”)

Which three (or more!) Bible verses shared in this chapter will be most helpful to you in modeling and teaching your children about being a peacemaker?

## chapter 16

# honesty

*The Lord detests lying lips, but He delights in people who are trustworthy.*

Proverbs 12:22

What happens when we are honest with our children about our own sin and weaknesses?  
(See page 182)

What does research reveal about kids who live in fear of punishment for lying?

What will incline our children to confess their sin? (See page 188)

Jeannie contrasts what Paul taught as the universal law of consequences in Galatians 6:7-8 with the karmic “what goes around comes around” system of payback. See page 189 and explain the difference in the two.

Which three practical tips/tools were most helpful to you in this chapter? (Example: “Tell the truth, even when it’s difficult.”)

Which three (or more!) Bible verses shared in this chapter will be most helpful to you in modeling and teaching your children about being a peacemaker?

## chapter 17

# in him and through him

*My body and my heart may grow weak, but God is the strength of my heart  
and all I need forever.*

Psalm 73:26 NLV

Who is the Holy Spirit? How can the Holy Spirit be described to our children?

Jeannie writes, “Teaching our children about growing in the likeness of Christ can all too easily creep from ‘in Him and through Him’ to ‘here is your checklist for obeying God’s commands to become more like Him.’” What does this type of legalistic approach produce in our children?

On page 194, in what does Jeannie say the Christian life is and isn’t grounded?

Jeannie writes, “We do not want to risk suggesting to our children that we earn God’s pleasure through our obedience, our excellence, or our ‘best-ness.’” (See pages 195-196) What do Hebrews 11:6 and Colossians 1:9-10 teach us about what is pleasing to God?

Read 1Peter 5:8 on page 198. What does this verse teach us about evil, and how does Jeannie suggest we translate this knowledge to our kids?

Which three Bible verses noted in this chapter will be most helpful to you in teaching your children about doing life “in Him and through Him?”

## chapter 18

### authority and obedience

*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because He first loved us.*

1 John 4:18–19

On page 204, Jeannie writes, “Jesus, in His unconditional love and undeserved kindness, is not in the business of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_.” If our desire is to reflect the heart of Jesus to our children, how does this truth impact our parenting?

What is the difference in being “in control” and “controlling”?

Read John 14:21. How does this verse speak to the difference in guilt-driven obedience and grace-driven obedience, as described on pages 208-209?

What are the benefits of obedience to Christ that can be taught to our children?

What is the R&R principle? Is this principle different than how you are currently expecting obedience from your children? If so, how?

## chapter 19

# training and instruction

*And this is His command: to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He commanded us. The one who keeps God's commands lives in Him, and He in them. And this is how we know that He lives in us: We know it by the Spirit He gave us.*

1 John 3:23-24

Read Ephesians 6:1-4 at the top of page 216. The end of this verse is one of the only two verses in the New Testament that is actually written as a direct command to parents in childrearing. What is the command? And what does Jeannie write is actually meant by this command?

Jeannie points out that Proverbs 22:6 is a commonly cited but often misunderstood verse as it relates to Christian parenting: "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." What does Jeannie write this verse is not intended to do? And what does this verse actually offer parents?

On page 218, Jeannie shares one of her favorite Bible verses for training and instructing her children, which is Philippians 2:13 (NLT). What two things does this verse teach our children God gives to them to live in obedience to Him? Why is this so important?

Based on Proverbs 18:21, Jeannie writes that our words can do one of two things. (See page 220) What are those two things and why is this important for children *and* parents to remember?

How is Galatians 5:22-23, as noted on page 221, useful for us when training and instructing our children?

What is “sin patrol” as described on page 225? Now contrast “sin patrol” with “S&S praise” as described on page 226.

## chapter 20

# discipline and correction

*No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.*

Hebrews 12:11

What are some of the reasons we might avoid disciplining our children, as noted on page 235? How does Proverbs 3:11-12 instruct us in disciplining our children?

How is teaching our children the difference in discipline and punishment an opportunity to point them to the good news of our Savior?

What is the difference between *what we do* and *who we are*? (See page 238) How does Romans 3:24-25 guide us in teaching the difference to our children?

Colossians 3:21 is the second of the two verses in the New Testament with a direct command for parents in childrearing. “Parents, don’t come down too hard on your children or you’ll crush their spirits” (Col. 3:21 MSG). How does this verse guide us in reflecting the heart of Christ when disciplining our children?

What are the four questions parents can ask when using the “What, Why, How and Now” model of discipline? How does this model of discipline shift our focus from forcing change in our kids’ outward behavior to reaching their hearts with God’s grace?

Jeannie notes that the key to effective discipline begins with parents assessing their motivation and implementation. What does Jeannie say must be our motivation (refer to 2 Corinthians 7:10 NLT) and our implementation (refer to Romans 2:4) to reflect the heart of Jesus to our kids?

## chapter 21

# repentance and forgiveness

*Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

Colossians 3:13

What does Jeannie say are the nine hardest words? Why do you believe these words can be so hard for us to say, especially to our children?

To help our children understand and experience the forgiveness and compassion of Christ, what must we be willing to do as parents? (Refer to page 252)

Jeannie writes, “Modeling a life in Christ for our kids is not about always getting it right. If it were, I would have given up a long time ago. No, modeling a life in Christ is mostly about modeling how much we need Jesus.” How can we model how much we need Jesus to our children?

What is the difference between an apology and repentance, as described on page 255?

How can reflecting on our own brokenness impact our parenting and the way we respond to our children's brokenness? (Refer to page 257)

Micah 7:19 (NLT) says, "Once again you will have compassion on us. You will trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean!" What does this verse teach us about how we can reflect the heart of God to our children when we forgive them?

What is God's final word to us and to our children, as noted on page 259? What does this good news do to your heart?

wrapping up

# his grace *is* enough

The *most important* thing we can do for our kids is captivate them with what Jesus has already done for them.

That is the essence of raising a wholehearted child.

Parenting isn't about God relying on you to change your child's behavior. Parenting is about you relying on God to transform your child's heart, despite all your mistakes.

So friends, be free... and ... give grace!

Thank you for traveling on this transformative journey with me. I pray your heart has been strengthened by grace.

In His Wholehearted love,

Jeannie