

"I Didn't Plan on Homeschooling"

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Every family is faced with the decision of whether or not to homeschool their children in this season of uncertainty during a global pandemic. While Jennifer didn't begin homeschooling under those circumstances, she definitely had no formal plans to do so until circumstances led her to it. Come hear her journey, how she and her husband made the decision, and why she continues to homeschool years later.

A. Five reasons I said, "I'll never be a homeschool mom."

1. Homeschoolers are "different."
2. I'm not qualified.
3. Our finances will suffer.
4. I need "Me Time"
5. Shouldn't Christians be in the world?

B. The importance of re-evaluating personal opinions, motives, and goals

1. Ask questions, theoretical and practical.
2. Talk to people with different experiences and views.
3. Consider your goals, long-term and short-term.
4. Pray!

C. The reasons I said, "I'll never..." have become the reasons I'm sticking with it!

1. It's great to be different!
2. Who is more qualified to connect with their children and identify needs than their parents?
3. We've learned to be creative and trust in the Lord's provision.
4. "Us Time" has become more important than "Me Time."
5. Our kids are participants in the Gospel because they are given plenty of opportunities to really serve the community.

D. Discussion time.

Suggested discussion questions include but aren't limited to:

1. What is the #1 reason you are considering homeschooling?
2. Who would support your decision to homeschool?
3. What are your biggest concerns about homeschooling?

Takeaways:

1. I never thought I'd be a homeschooling mom. In fact, I specifically said, "I cannot do that."
2. Circumstances change that force us to re-evaluate our goals and the path to achieve those goals.
3. The experience of homeschooling began to debunk the misconceptions I had created in my mind.
4. Surround yourself with a support system that will help you to thrive.
5. 5. Don't forget to pray! You can homeschool to the glory of God!