

Ready to Homeschool — Six Month Countdown

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WEEK 24: TEACHING FROM REST

This book really resonated with me. It appears that Sarah Mackenzie never set out to write a book... she had a blog and was just writing about her own journey through educational philosophies (which are usually more of a journey than any of us like to admit). This blog grew and grew, and finally she condensed and re-organized her writings into a book that has received rave reviews.

She was weary in her soul of constantly striving and trying to DO IT ALL, and feeling overwhelmed and frazzled and frustrated.

She has come to embrace a more relaxed approach. Not necessarily less rigorous. The discussions she facilitates with her children are intellectual and deep. But she is learning that God uses everything and that she can trust HIM because He's got this!!! This is what she means by REST.... Not necessarily the absence of work, but the firm reliance in God that He will accomplish His purposes in spite of our mistakes.

She is not advocating laziness. Sarah encourages moms everywhere to be faithful to the HIGH CALLING of motherhood and realize what a privilege and responsibility this is. She reminds us that we are not being judged by the success of our children. We are ultimately judged by God who has given us a sacred trust, and our job is to be faithful with our days and minutes.

Throughout the book, Sarah fills her reader with encouragement to find your own style as a homeschool mom, and go forward in that strength. There is no need to copy someone else. She explains the power of REVIEW, LOOPING, SYMPOSIUM (morning meeting) and BUILDING MARGIN into your homeschool schedule to avoid the frazzled and overwhelmed feeling from creeping in to steal your joy.

There is a reference to "Scholé" and talks with Dr. Christopher Perrin, so if that intrigues you, there is another rabbit trail for you to follow. Sarah is a firm believer in taking time to continue your own learning pursuits as well, as an example to your children, as well as a way to keep yourself mentally healthy.

This is such a short read compared to some other homeschool books, BUT each page is saturated with wisdom and quotable phrases that you could re-read the same page several times and get something new each time through (as I did when I kept losing my place and starting over.....)

This is our last Book Review. There are MANY other books worth reading, but you have now been exposed to a good smattering of homeschool wisdom. You can take it from here... ;-)