

# LIES ABOUT PARENTING AND HOPE FOR PRODIGALS

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**LIE:** I don't have time.

**VERSE:** "I have finished the work which You have given Me to do." *John 17:4*  
"So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up." *Galatians 6:9*

**TRUTH:** Moms, we often feel overwhelmed by how much we are supposed to do, and it may be that we have goals that are unbiblical. Teach children to glorify God as their goal.

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**LIE:** They'll grow out of it. It's not a big deal.

**VERSE:** "Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it." *Proverbs 22:6*. "...in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility." *Titus 2:7*

**TRUTH:** Our job is to teach our children God's commandments and to live within His boundaries. Give them Biblical structures for life.

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**LIE:** My child wouldn't do that.

**VERSE:** "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," *Romans 3:23*

**TRUTH:** We aren't objective when it comes to our children, and they are not exempt from temptation. Let's arm ourselves with truth, have important conversations, and be ready to nurture them with truth when they sin.

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**LIE:** What they watch or listen to doesn't matter.

**VERSE:** "Whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." *Philippians 4:8*

**TRUTH:** Risky and inappropriate behaviors are made to look cool and fun in music, tv and social media, tempting children to try them, to think these are ok, or to idolize and act like the performers. Movies with crime and horror can scare children, causing anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts. Guard your children.



**LIE:** Having a prodigal child is all my fault.

**VERSE:** “Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” *1 Peter 5:8*

**TRUTH:** Although it is our responsibility to guide our children in the ways of the Lord, we are not responsible for our children being led astray.

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**LIE:** My main goal is to do whatever I can to be as close to my child.

**VERSE:** “My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.”  
*1 John 3:18-19*

**TRUTH:** My main goal is to point my child to Christ. (Sometimes this means being willing to make waves by speaking the truth. Never be willing to affirm sin in order to maintain a relationship).

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**LIE:** My child’s happiness is most important.

**VERSE:** “I will bring the blind by a way they did not know; I will lead them in paths they have not known. I will make darkness light before them, And crooked places straight. These things I will do for them, And not forsake them. They shall be turned back, They shall be greatly ashamed, Who trust in carved images, Who say to the molded images, ‘You are our gods.’ *Isaiah 42:16-17* “Return to Me,’ says the LORD of hosts, ‘and I will return to you,’ says the LORD of hosts.” *Zechariah 1:3*

**TRUTH:** What’s most important is that my prodigal child returns to the Lord in whatever way the Lord wants to use to bring him or her back. Be willing to pray the hard prayer: “Lord, do whatever it takes!”

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**LIE:** There is no hope that my Child will come back to the Lord.

**VERSE:** “Refrain your voice from weeping, And your eyes from tears; For your work shall be rewarded, says the LORD, And they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope in your future, says the LORD, That your children shall come back to their own border.” *Jeremiah 31:16-17*

**TRUTH:** God restores our hope.

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**LIE:** Having a prodigal disqualifies me from serving God.

**VERSE:** “And the people said to Joshua, ‘The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!’” *Joshua 24:24*  
“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” *Colossians 3:17*

**TRUTH:** As a believer, I need to serve the Lord with joy regardless of the choices my child has made to walk away.