



Engaging Motherhood: Heart Preparation for a Holy Calling

Engaging Motherhood is a place for moms of young children to connect and beat back loneliness, to be reminded of truth when lies scream so loudly, and to be assured that we are enough because Christ is enough. Written by seven women with one heart, it seeks to prepare mamas for the days when sin flares up, expectations go unmet, relationships are strained, or the line between the rational and the irrational blurs. Allow your gaze to be lifted from the stifling how-to's of raising a child to Christ's sufficiency in meeting your every need along the way.

About the Authors



Holly Mackle is wife to David, mama of two flower-sneaking bitties, and garden blogger at Digging Suburbia. (The bitties want you to know they like glitter, chips, and a good ruffle.) Alongside some dear friends, Holly is an author of the new moms study *Engaging Motherhood, Heart Preparation for a Holy Calling* (2016). She graduated from Samford University, and holds Masters degrees in Spanish Literature and Secondary Education. After leaving her teaching job to become a stay at home mom, Holly writes as a regular contributor to enCourage—the PCA women’s blog, the upcoming joegardener.com, and the Wellspring blog. In her free time, she enjoys both pop culture and theological podcasts (sometimes back to back), baking through Pioneer Woman’s recipes, and using every gardening metaphor possible to explain life to her girls. She does not enjoy chasing rabbits away from her green beans.



Linda Barrett is Honey to her husband, Mama to three grown children, and Momanim to an energetic, blue-eyed dog named Barnabas. She grew up in Alabama, graduated with a degree in English, married, then for twenty years zigzagged across the country, finally settling in Birmingham.

Although converted when young, performance-based Christianity drove Linda to despair. Then she awakened to God's glory and unconditional love. Now you can often find her weeping in her delight over God and his overwhelming grace to her and others. She shares God's revealed grace and wonders through writing, teaching, mentoring, and other arts.

She loves well-crafted stories, meaningful conversations, camping with her husband, laughter with friends and family, and worship and prayer with like-minded people.

Linda has published several articles, is a coauthor and contributor to a new Bible study for moms entitled *Engaging Motherhood: Heart Preparation for a Holy Calling*, and she blogs at:

invitationtowonder.wordpress.com.

Suggested Interview Questions:

1. Explain why this study has seven women speaking to various aspects of motherhood and how is each voice unique?
2. There are some difficult topics approached such as postpartum depression, loneliness, and infertility. How are you hoping that approaching these subjects will build authentic community amidst mothers?
3. Is this study for just for new moms? What could more experienced mothers with older children glean from this content?
4. Moms of this culture are bombarded with information and stifling demands. Describe some of the ways you see this study helping women combat that.
5. Describe a "mom" moment that helped to shape and inspire the framework for this study.