

# Release

The Art of Fearless Mothering to  
Release Powerful and Purposed Sons

CANDY GIBBS

Copyright © 2019 by Candy Gibbs

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, with the exception of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law. For permission requests, write to the publisher at the address below.

All examples involving ministry situations are real. However, the details and surrounding circumstances may have been altered or combined to preserve the privacy and confidentiality of the individuals involved.

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the ESV<sup>1</sup> Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version<sup>1</sup>). Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version<sup>1</sup>. Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. [www.Zondervan.com](http://www.Zondervan.com). The NIV and New International Version are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.<sup>1</sup>

Unless otherwise noted, word definitions are taken from the Google dictionary ([www.google.com](http://www.google.com)).

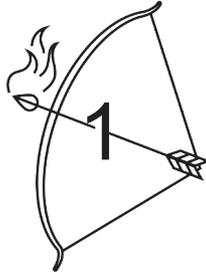
Publisher does not have any control over, or responsibility for, any third-party websites referred to in this book. All Internet addresses referred to in this book were correct at the time of going to press. The author and publisher regret any inconvenience caused if addresses have changed or sites have ceased to exist.

Hope Choice Inc.  
P.O. Box 50342  
Amarillo, Texas 79159  
[www.hopechoice.com](http://www.hopechoice.com)

Cover design: Phillip Ortiz, Peel Creative

Printed in the United States of America

ISBN: 978-0-9820476-8-2  
eISBN: 978-0-9820476-9-9



## Fearless Motherhood

“Perhaps it takes courage to raise children.”

JOHN STEINBECK, *EAST OF EDEN*

*“Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you – guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.”*

2 TIMOTHY 1:14 (NIV)

I am a girl (obviously) and my only sibling is a very precious younger sister. There were no boys in our home except for our dad, and he isn't *really* a “boy.” Growing up, our home was full of laughter, many tears, fights over clothes, late night talks involving way too much chocolate, lessons on hair and make-up, sports, lots of boyfriends, great girlfriend memories, and talking — lots and lots of talking.

When Brian and I married, I immediately became mom to a five-year-old boy. Not long after that, along came Jake, and then there were two. Two boys. What in the world was the Lord thinking? I have no experience with this. I may not have the stomach for it, either. How am I going to be the mom to these two boys? Fear set in.

It is my opinion that fear is one of the only, and certainly one of the strongest, tools of the enemy. Think back over

## RELEASE

your life as a mom. How many times has the card the enemy played been one of fear? Fear mostly of the future. How will this turn out and what horrible role will I have played in my son's demise simply because I don't know what I am doing as a mom?

I look back over our life as a family and I can recall numerous occasions when in the midst of a difficult situation I would think, "Now would be the perfect time for a pause button. I need a moment because I am looking into the dirty face of a boy who is still panting from that very dangerous, crazy yet perfect backflip off of the trampoline. I need to pause this moment until I know the right 'mom' thing to say!"

Or have you ever had the thought, "We really need an adult right now and I think I may be the best we've got"? The enemy is so crafty at making us feel inadequate and thus paralyzing us with fear. He has a plan. If He can make us afraid, he can render us *powerless*. When we are afraid, we freeze not knowing what the right next move is. Our fear becomes our focus and causes us to shrink back and be distracted from our calling or the callings placed on our children.

*"For the spirit God gave us does not make us timid [or fearful], but gives us power, love and self-discipline."*

2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV)

Fear is a spirit and a prophetic spirit, at that. It tells you about your future or the future of your family and your children. First of all, our enemy does not know our future. He knows his because he can read about it! Because Satan knows

## FEARLESS MOTHERHOOD

how this ends, he is relentless in his pursuit, which is to steal, kill, and destroy. When we base our decisions about our children on the lies the spirit of fear tells us, we will be rendered impotent and powerless.

So where does the enemy snare us? What are we afraid of as moms?

First, we are afraid of our children. I know that sounds super silly, that we are afraid of our own children, but take a moment to think about it. How many times have we made parental decisions based on how our children will respond? Are they going to rebel? What if they hate us? They are going to quite literally throw a fit.

Remember when these young men were cute little boys? We have all had the experience of our sons asking for ice cream or a candy bar. As moms, we know that saying no is going to result in an ugly and embarrassing fit. When our sons were two, though it was definitely uncomfortable, we were willing to face the fit for the good of our sons. Why then does that change when they are 15? Let me assure you that it is as natural for a 15-year-old to throw a fit as it is for a two-year-old. However, these fits are quite a bit more overwhelming to us moms. Sometimes we base our decisions on our fear of the fit.

This spirit of fear has convinced us that *all* teenagers rebel. If we are too strict, we will push them into doing the very thing we don't want them to do, and our children, especially when they are teens, will not want anything to do with us.

Not one of those statements is true. Not all teenagers rebel. All kids make mistakes but the vast majority of them do not go hog wild. I am not talking about being overly strict

## RELEASE

or legalistic, but can I tell you that if you are allowing things in your home that make you uncomfortable because you are afraid of how your children will respond if you set a standard — that is called blackmail.

We do not parent our children based on how they will or will not respond. Parenting is an act of worship and is directly tied to my relationship with the Lord. When a situation happens, I go to the Lord and I do what He tells me to do. The way my child responds is up to him and his relationship with God. For example, say that my son wants to date a young woman. Brian and I go to the Lord about it, and we will base our decision on the direction of the Holy Spirit. It has nothing to do with being strict, but fear of our children's response must not blackmail us into making decisions that are detrimental to our children and disobedient to the Lord.

The second thing we fear is what other people, especially other moms, will think. The spirit of fear has us convinced that our friends will think we are “those” parents, and that our children will not have any friends if we don't give them a cell phone in the third grade and let them have an Instagram account. We cannot continue to look to the right or to the left to see how others are parenting and base our decisions on them. We cannot mother out of a fear of what our friends will say about us.

*“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world — the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life — is not from the Father but is from the world.”*

## FEARLESS MOTHERHOOD

*And the world is passing away along with its desires,  
but whoever does the will of God abides forever.”*

1 John 2:15-17

The truth is — who cares what your friends think of the decisions you are making in your home? We experience peer pressure as much as our children do. Do not be afraid to think for yourself. Let your yes be yes and your no be no, and know why you take the stands you do. If it is because that is how the Lord is directing your family, then stick to it. Your children will be better off if your decisions about technology, social media, dating, etc. are based on your relationship with the Lord and His Word rather than the opinion of Mrs. Jones across the street.

Finally, we are afraid that we are messing this up — that we don't know how to do this “mom” thing. The spirit of fear whispers things such as, “Oh wow, what if your children were to find out about those things you've done in your past? How in the world can you set a higher standard for your children than you were able to keep at their age? You aren't even smart enough to help with 7<sup>th</sup> grade homework, and you are the best these kids have for learning about life? You don't trust yourself. Why should they trust you? This is like the blind leading the blind here. You can't see the direction you and your family should be heading any better than your three-year-old can.”

*“This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live*

## RELEASE

*out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.”*

1 John 1:5-7 (NIV)

God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. We need to begin to speak to our fear: “You listen here, you spirit of fear. This is not the blind leading the blind. This is the once blind but now fully-sighted child of the Most High God, one forgiven by the blood of Christ that purified me from all of my sin, walking in the light with Him. And I see you for who you are. God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind!”

From where I am sitting we are in the battle of our lifetime for our sons — really all of our children. We are in a battle for our very way of life. And fear has rendered us powerless and impotent.

As believers who are part of the body of Christ, here is what is true about you:

- **You are the guardian of your son’s dreams.** So until his heart is strong enough to chase his dreams, you must be strong enough for the both of you.
- **You are a carrier of hope.** *“But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently”* (Romans 8:24–25 NIV). You see hope when he sees discouragement. Speak hope over him.
- **You are a mentor and an example.** Your son watches you. He takes notice when difficulties arise and you

## FEARLESS MOTHERHOOD

keep your eyes on Christ. He notices when you keep your word to a friend when it would have been easier to forget it. He sees you working hard to steer your family in the right direction. He will follow you as you follow Christ.

- **You are a piece of his strength.** Both of our sons wrestled. In a difficult wrestling match, it is hard for me to watch as they struggle and fight. But one thing is sure: no matter how hard it is for me, there will not be a match where my son can't find me. In adversity, your son needs to find you in his crowd. Just your locking eyes with him will communicate to his heart, "You look right here, son; I am proud of you. You are strong; you can do it."
- **You give life.** Life and death are in the power of your tongue. When your son falls and gets bruises and skinned knees, you are the voice saying, "Let me help you up; let me dust you off. Now, you try again."
- **You are a mirror.** You see things in your son that are too extraordinary for him to comprehend. You act as a mirror that reflects back to him the greatness that you see in him, and you keep holding that mirror in front of him until he can see that greatness for himself.
- **You are his protector.** You will stand guard and you will stand against every attack of the enemy that comes against him. You will continue to fight intense battles through prayer without growing weary in doing good. You are a mom.

## RELEASE

These descriptions do not sound like powerless, fearful people. These descriptions sound like a strong, competent, secure, powerful, bold, beautiful warrior for the Kingdom, and that, my dear sister, is you!!!

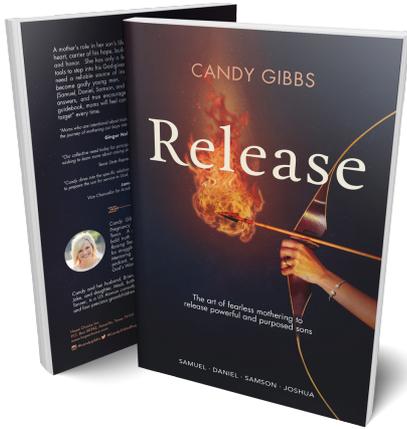
I would like to close this chapter with a prayer for you.

“God, thank You that we are armed for battle. You have given us the sword of the spirit; Your Word and Your favor protect us like a shield. We are not afraid. We are not afraid! We will stand where You have called us to stand, and we will be fierce in the protection of our children. We will be fierce in our love for You first, for our spouses and for our children. God, we will not be silent, and we are not weak because Your Holy Spirit is alive in us. Your Word is active in us.

“God, help us to stay submitted to the authorities You have placed over us, but Lord, in the name of Jesus we will stand at our post. We will fight the battles that come our way and we will take ground for Your Kingdom. The enemy will not have our families; he will not have our marriages, and he will not have our sons. The battle is Yours, and we need only to stand. We will stop denying there *is* a battle and we will wield our swords. Make us strong, alert, and dangerous to the enemy.

“You are the Victor. We are honored to come alongside You and humbled that You would allow us this privilege... Make us different. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.”

You are handpicked to mother this young man. You are just the mom to do it. Let's do it without fear. You are fully equipped for this good work the Lord has prepared in advance for you.



Visit  
[CandyGibbs.com](http://CandyGibbs.com)  
to purchase  
the full book!!

