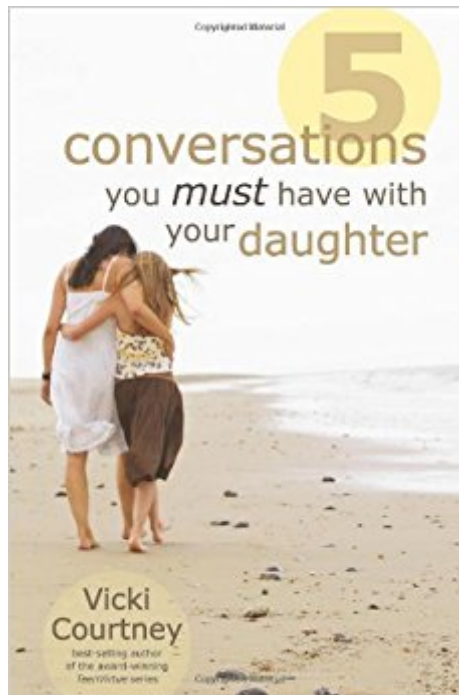




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Five Conversations You Must Have With Your Daughter



Synopsis

From the cradle to college, tell your daughters the truth about life before they believe the culture's lies. For mothers with girls newborn to eighteen, *Five Conversations You Must Have with Your Daughter* is simply a must-have book. Youth culture commentator Vicki Courtney helps moms pinpoint and prepare the discussions that should be ongoing in their daughters' formative years. To fully address the dynamic social and spiritual issues and influencers at hand, several chapters are written for each of the conversations, which are: 1. You are more than the sum of your parts 2. Don't be in such a hurry to grow up 3. Sex is great and worth the wait 4. It's OK to dream about marriage and motherhood 5. Girls gone wild are a dime a dozen • dare to be virtuous The book is linked to online bonus features offering invaluable tips on having these conversations across the various stages of development: five and under, six to eleven, twelve and up.

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Customer Reviews

Vicki Courtney is a speaker and the best-selling author of many books and Bible studies. Among her popular writings are the ECPA Christian Book Award winners *Teen Virtue* and *Teen Virtue Confidential*. Vicki and her husband have three grown children, a son-in-law, a daughter-in-law, and a grandchild. They live in Austin, Texas where they are blessed to have all of their children living nearby. More information can be found at VickiCourtney.com.

This book is clearly intended for moms, but this dad learned a lot. I began reading this book on a plane during a business trip. Based on the title alone, no less than five flight attendants thanked me for reading it and expressed their wish that their fathers had read something similar. I was also approached by a couple of female passengers. None of my four flights passed without someone commenting on the book. Obviously, the topic of this book fills a need. The author is unabashedly Christian, but her information and guidance are applicable regardless of your religious tendencies. If you're uncomfortable with Christianity, just mentally substitute "grandpa" for God and "Important Psychology Textbook" for Bible, and you'll discover that it really is universal. The author espouses her ideals but is careful to explain that each family and each daughter are different, and that an overly strict "one size fits all" approach will not be successful. She also accepts that every parent is imperfect, having made their own mistakes while growing up (and likely continuing to make mistakes). She admits her own mistakes and is very open about the abortion she had as a young woman. Obviously, this is not a woman who would disown her daughter for pre-marital sex or teen pregnancy, but she recognizes these are not the goals. This book offers great information and guidance on ways to reduce their likelihood. What opened my eyes the most was the information on the effect of media on little girls. When I look at a covermodel on a magazine, I think "Wow, she's hot." I generally take little notice of the men on magazine covers (sorry, I'm just a typical guy). However, when young girls see a covermodel, they think "Ugh, I don't look like that, so I must need to diet, wear more make-up, dress more provocatively, etc." I was also surprised at just how much teen girls measure their self worth by the attention they get from boys. Talk about a recipe for eating disorders, teen sex, etc. After reading the book (and several by Dannah Gresh on related topics), I have already begun these conversations with my daughters (7 and 5 yrs old). Before reading the books, I thought I could wait until my daughters were in their teens before having "the talk." Now I realize that there is not just "the talk," but rather many conversations that must start while they are young and must be ongoing. Just the other day, I showed my girls a magazine cover of Faith Hill and the original (before photoshop) version. They were amazed at how much "editing" was done for one of the most beautiful women in the world. They came away understanding that "nobody looks like the woman on the magazine...not even the woman on the magazine!" These conversations are just too important to risk the consequences of not having them.

Having a similar background and the same fears entering motherhood this book was a breath of fresh air. I appreciated the bluntness as well as all the references scripture and studies that were so

seamlessly woven together. I am a mother of two daughters and feel so much better equipped to enter into these conversations. Some we planned to have others are hadn't considered but we now see the wisdom behind. I look forward to going to the site for specifics on the conversations by age group. A definite must read for parents...I will definitely be sharing this with my husband.

Good book that has helped me be a better mom. Along with the 5 love languages book series that's out there and some of the autism books, these are very helpful resources.

Anyone who has daughters really should read this book. It has great verses taken from the Bible to be applied in raising our daughters. It also has surprising and disturbing information from studies done on the effect our crazy world has on girls from previous decades verses girls now. It helps you to realize what our daughters are up against.

AA++

For parents desiring to raise their girls with godly values while avoiding the pitfalls of this culture, this book can be very helpful, especially if it is used in the context of a "holistic" family approach that includes regular church attendance and involvement and God-honoring parental examples. But please don't put it off. As the author says (page 239), "This trend is especially frightening when you consider that much of a child's personality is developed by the age of five and their identity is molded by the messages they receive from those closest to them." I must respectfully disagree with those reviewers who suggest for those who are not receptive to the idea of Christianity that the book can be helpful even if those "religious" aspects are ignored or interpreted in secular terms. Taking that approach would actually promote the perspectives the writer is specifically advocating against. It makes the parent's subjective "truth," rather than God and His inspired Word, the center of the process, which is our society's fundamental problem that the book addresses. The writer's Christian faith and reliance on God are basic to the theme of the book. As she says in the introduction: "And you pray, pray, pray and lean on God for strength and wisdom, and discernment. You can't do this in your own strength--you need the Lord's help." The book is filled with Bible citations and quotes that cannot (and should not) be easily overlooked or reinterpreted. I encourage readers to read the book with an inquiring and receptive mind and see what the author has to offer and why, rather than attempting to overlook or redefine the Christian aspects. As a society, we have accepted the culture's lie that "my way is as good as your way, as long as it feels right for me." This plays right

into the culture's plans of divide and conquer. To the contrary, the author frequently refers to the indispensable importance of her supportive church community in providing first playmates and then dating prospects for her children with families they knew and that shared common (Christian) values. The mother also looked to this same community for godly women role models for her daughter as she grew older. The underlying point the writer is making is that this culture is highly organized, clever, insidious, and relentless in its attempts to destroy the very souls of the children we hold so precious. If we are to prevail, we must better understand the culture's methods and be as organized and relentless as our culture. And we must have a common objective standard. In the author's words (page 227), "Our call [as parents] is to point our daughters to a more virtuous standard of behavior as outlined by God in His Word." If we truly want to protect our children from the culture, this book, used in connection with that Word--the Bible, can be a great place to start.

Loved all of it and wished I had listened / read it 10 years ago. Must read!!

I love this book by Vicki Courtney! It is not only easy to read and well written, but also very interesting and entertaining. I laughed out loud, I cried and I shared most of what I read with my husband. (Who is terrified of our 2 year old daughter getting any older! :)) It is a book that I will read every year and talk with my daughter about. I absolutely loved it and would recommend it to everyone!

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