

***Brave Moms, Brave Kids***  
**Excerpt (2) for blog post**

I can't put my finger on the exact moment when fear crept into my heart, but one day I took a brief survey of the world we're living in and an icy grip grabbed hold. I was praying that my kids would be warriors for Christ, but I realized just the term *warrior* indicated they would see war. As much as I believed Jesus was worth it, my mama heart began to latch onto the idea that I could somehow protect them better than He could. "Father, I know You love them, and I want You to use them to advance Your kingdom, but I want them safe."

The problem we face as mothers is we cannot hold on to both fear and faith simultaneously. I began to find the fear debilitating and suffocating. Where was the boldness that moved out in faith? How would I ever be able to fully surrender my children's future to the Lord?

As Christians, we sometimes toss around the idea of surrender casually. When we say we surrender something to Christ, we mean we are turning it over to Him. We've decided to quit fighting and we recognize His authority over us.

I love that powerful idea, but I was absolutely floored when I began studying and found that Scripture doesn't use that word to describe the process we're talking about. The use of the word *surrender* in Hebrew is strictly applicable for surrendering to another man, as in troop to troop after a battle. Scripture uses other words to describe what man does when overcome with the realization that God is infinitely more powerful and worthy than he is. It uses words like *submit*, *succumb*, *selfdenial*, *yield*, *commit*, and my favorite, *entrust*.

This is such a relief to me. We're not in a battle with God, and we don't need to quit fighting Him. Besides, the warrior mom instinct inside us is alive and strong, and there will be no giving up when it comes to protecting and defending our children. The word *surrender* just doesn't seem to apply. But oh, the blessing of entrusting.

Entrusting means giving over the responsibility, putting something into another's care or protection. This is what my heart longs for when it's overwhelmed by my inability to keep my children safe, healthy, protected, obedient, and faithful. I desperately desire to assign the responsibility to someone who will not fail at the task. There is a deep yes in my spirit when I consider the invitation not to surrender my fight—but rather, entrust my children to someone who cares even more than I do.

Friends, I think we must consider our surrender, our entrusting, with eyes wide open. God does not promise our families perfect health, financial prosperity, worldly success, or even safety in this world. He will not hand us back everything we lay down. But in trials and moments of fear, we may find a depth of fellowship with our Savior we would know in no other way. Psalm 34:18 says we are promised that it is the Lord Himself who is "near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." He is and always will be with us.

What is something you can entrust to Him today? Will you allow Him to replace your fear with faith?