

Preface

Raising Responsive Children: A Bible Study for Moms was written for every mom whose child is any age. Today's parent is surrounded by an endless stream of books overflowing with "wisdom" about how to parent; however, there is only one Book that trumps the wisdom of man, and that's the Word of God. It is filled with guidance on how to respond to and build up our kids, as well as how to teach, rebuke, correct, and train them with the right heart, attitude, and motives. The perfect parenting example for all us imperfect parents is none other than God, the Father.

How God loves us, trains us, guides us, and disciplines us—His children—is how we should love, train, guide, and discipline our children. And His desire is that we learn to *respond* to His loving authority, just as His own Son, Jesus Christ, did. Don't we want our children to respond to us in the same way? But first, we moms must get in sync with God's ways. Why? Because God's ways work *all* the time—even if His ways are painful; even when His ways don't look like they're producing results fast enough; even when His ways are met with resistance or rebellion. Remember—as we're raising our children, God is still raising us. He provides us with daily opportunities to grow as women responsive to His will. Parenting just happens to be another effective training ground for *our* maturity in Christ.

Whether you are studying this book on your own, with a friend, or with a group, rely on the Holy Spirit as your teacher. His job is to lead you into all truth, to dispel the many lies that, up to now, have been foundational to your parenting practices. He will teach you to enjoy your children and maximize your relationship with them, all the while building in you a new freedom and confidence to address your parenting responsibilities and challenges head on. Parenting will become an enjoyable adventure for you *and* your children!

Keep in mind that a free leader's guide is available for download at my Website (www.eyministries.org).

May you give God your best effort as you study *Raising Responsive Children: A Bible Study for Moms*. And when you release your children into adulthood and into the hands of their heavenly Parent, may you declare as did the apostle John, "*I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth*" (3 John 4).

In Christ's love,
Judy