



**Grace in Homeschool EP 01**  
**10 Reasons You Can Homeschool**  
**Reason 1: Bravery**  
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**Amy:** You may even think you will wreck your child's education or their lives. But trust me; you can do this.

(Opening Intro Music)

**Amy:** Hi, friends, and welcome. I'm your host AmyElizSmith. I'm a homeschool mom of three and have homeschooled each from the start. While I have a Master's in Elementary Ed, I want to teach other mamas that you don't need a fancy degree to have the passion and knowledge to educate your children from home successfully.

I encourage you to jump in and start your homeschool journey and provide my absolute best recommendations to help you begin your homeschool journey. Thanks for joining us for this crazy, messy, grace-filled homeschool ride.

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**Amy:** Hi, friends. I'm so excited you're here to jump in with me. You are welcome whether you're new to what homeschool even means or a veteran homeschooler. I'm so excited to get started. And to start, we will look at the "Top 10 Reasons You Can Homeschool" and feel confident in that. So we're going to start today with "You Are Brave."

**Homeschooling means you're going against the grain. And anytime that happens, you have to jump in with both feet despite what your previous experience says and despite what people may be telling you. You may be absolutely terrified that you're embarking on a journey that you don't know where it will lead.**

**You don't know how to begin. You may even think that you will wreck your child's education or their lives. But trust me; you can do this. You don't need a degree in teaching to intuitively know that you were the one meant to influence**



**and teach and direct your child and their future. You have a fierce love for your child and your children, and you may have a conviction that you want to do the will of God to raise them in the ways of the Lord according to his commands, and you should feel proud of that fact. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." And that is so true. Acts 16:31 says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."**

**Your household coming together, parent and child learning together, can bear so much fruit. So before I talk about the curriculum or all the fun philosophies and how you can glean amazing knowledge from them, I want you to know you are brave. By jumping in or even thinking about jumping in, I want to encourage you that you can do this.**

**Your love for your children is enough to get started. Your want and need to connect, love, be together, and go through experiences together will help you start this journey.**

**You know nothing has to be prepared for you right now. But, if you're not happy with your child's education or school, or maybe with some attitudes you're seeing and witnessing, or how they're being treated. If you feel in your gut that they should be home with you and outside of their school, we have the right and obligation to do something about these feelings.**

**I'm not saying you can choose to do nothing as a homeschooler, but you can have nothing prepared to take your child out. Now, different states have different laws, and I will attach those to this podcast episode so you can see what your state laws say. But children, they need you.**

**You don't need anything to start. You can read together, spend time outdoors, and do nature journaling. There's a huge movement called unschool. It's a beloved philosophy where the child's interests and needs direct the learning. A parent can place tools and resources in front of the child.**

**My best friend's daughter loves horses. They have many horse anatomy books. She's written horse fiction and also horse non-fiction books. Creating diagrams of horses and other mammals.**



**She's presented her horse in the local clubs. So much learning has. She has been made through these interests, and she's learning grammar and spelling as a result, as well as a lot of science learning too. So that's an example of unschooling for a mid-elementary child. But right there, a trip to the library, some reading, and some outdoor time can encompass a lot of learning. Now, I personally don't subscribe to the method of unschool, but we use a lot of the principles with my children, especially in the afternoons. They have instruction from me in the mornings with books I've curated for them, but their afternoons are free for their interests.**

**This could include art, hobbies, knitting, coding, many other things, and some field trips with friends. But you can start using this method so you don't feel pressured. Children need the wisdom of old, so this is where I divert away from unschooling. I do believe the liberal arts and classical education and knowledge are so important, but you don't need a plan to jump in.**

**If you cannot stand your child in a government school for just another minute, you consult with your spouse. Take a look at the homeschool compliance laws for your state. Give notice to your school and take them out.**

**Also attached to this podcast, I will outline a number of free resources that can help you jump in according to your child's age group. So this will be a list of free language arts and math suggestions. Some nature and science options for you to jump in, as well as some curriculums that I feel are the best to jump in, but also the easiest to jump in because I know there are so many different options, and those choices can make it hard to make just one decision.**

**So I want to reiterate that you can pray with your spouse.**

**So remember that you can be brave. You can make this brave decision. You can say a prayer and discuss it with your spouse, and if he isn't on board or she isn't on board, you can continue to pray, and I can let you know my husband wasn't initially on board. He let me decide, but he was a little weary.**

**You know, there is that quote-unquote, properly socialized mentality that people have thinking that homeschoolers are weird and awkward, but the more you**



**share with him or her about what's going on in the culture of the schools, what may be going on for your child's mental health, all of those things, having those conversations, praying about it, hopefully, will help them to become on board.**

**I pray for you to agree on homeschooling and see the fruit. The fruit is your child morally influenced by your faith. You may want your child to have more free time and not be sitting in a classroom. You can help them express their interests.**

**Galatians 6:9 says, "Let us not become weary in doing good for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." So, dear friend, I pray that you don't give up. Don't give up this gut feeling that homeschooling might be right for you and your family. Don't let the what-ifs get in the way. Don't let your fears get in the way. No homeschooled family is perfect. Mine certainly isn't. But what we do do is we make that intentional choice every day to be together, to learn with one another, to forgive, and have patience with one another. Dear friend, you are braver and stronger than really I ever could be. I do have a degree in elementary education, but I don't say that to float my boat, so to speak. In this elite-minded world, many think that's all that matters. I'm so-called qualified to teach my kids. But you may feel like you're not because you must have a fancy degree behind your name.**

**You are more equipped to teach your child you love so fiercely than any 22-year-old, fresh out of college, or seasoned 60-year-old who genuinely loves her job and may be very good at it. You are more equipped than those people. Your brave decision to homeschool will open so many doors, and we will share more in the upcoming episodes.**

**You can visit me at [graceinhomeschool.com](http://graceinhomeschool.com) where we have many informative eBooks and free resources like the ones we discussed here in the show. I leave you today with a poem about what could be. It is so hard to jump into something new, knowing that you may or may not fail, but Adelaide Proctor wrote in the 19th century this poem:**

**Have we not all, amid life's petty strife,  
Some pure ideal of a noble life  
That once seemed possible? Did we not hear  
The flutter of its wings, and feel it near,**



**And just within our reach? It was. And yet  
We lost it in this daily jar and fret,  
but still our place is kept and it will late,  
Ready for us to fill it soon or late.  
No star is ever we once have seen,  
We always may be what we might have been.**

**So jump in, dear parents, dear Mama, you are brave and ready to start this  
journey.**