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Lyon, C., & Matlock, M. 's "Ideas for parents: A collection of tips, insights, and activities for real-world parenting" (Book Review)

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Lyon, C., & Matlock, M. (2012). *Ideas for parents: A collection of tips, insights, and activities for real-world parenting*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan. 364 pp. \$12.99. ISBN 9780310677673

Any parent looking for a biblical way to approach the ever-changing emotions and situations encountered with children, *Ideas for Parents* is the book to grab. The authors received contributions from individuals in various fields of expertise and compiled it into this book. They focus on three overarching parts: relationships and feelings, daily life, and spiritual shepherding. Underneath these are topics such as family, fear, success, money, prayer and many more. The “idea” portion of the book comes from the information given for each topic that includes questions to spark conversation, words of wisdom from other Christians and “try this” activities for each situation.

The ideas captured in this book give parents and caregivers ideas that could potentially produce fruitful changes in the relationships between the adult and children. The scriptures inserted into every section have the power to encourage the reader and reiterate the truth on the inside of every believer that there is a solution to all of life’s predicaments within the pages of the Bible. For example, in the “talk about” section of *Redefining Success*, the author references 1 Peter 4:1-11 to share that success is not only to “accomplish meaningful things,” but also “to be mocked and lonely” when standing for Jesus (p. 169).

One word of advice is to read this book with the intention of reflecting and applying the information. Because of the lengthiness of the book, the reader should devise a plan of attack before diving in. Be prepared to fold pages, highlight, and make notes within the margins. Whether reading for a specific topic or a well-rounded view, the authors produced a great resource of guidelines for parents to refer to no matter the stage of life their children are in.

Reviewer

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Assis, E. (2016). *Identity in conflict: The struggle between Esau and Jacob, Edom and Israel*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns. 214 pp. ISBN 9781575064178.

Dr. Elie Assis, Old Testament Bible scholar and professor at Bar-Ilan University in Israel, has written a thorough and insightful exegesis of the story of Isaac’s twin sons Esau and Jacob in Genesis and beyond. Their relationship and rivalry extended throughout the Old Testament with profound influence on their descendants, the nations of Edom and Israel. Just as Jacob experienced identity crisis so did