



God doesn't call mothers to rule-following but to an intimate relationship with Him. *Motherhood without All the Rules* identifies the main "rules" moms today often feel pressured to follow and counters them with Gospel truth. Instead of being a good mom, learn how you can grow to become a holy mom.

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## MOTHERHOOD WITHOUT ALL THE RULES

Peter is offering us a heavy helping of grace, but the following verses turn toward our sanctification. The paragraph continues with a list of virtues to add to our faith in Christ.

For this reason, *make every effort* to supplement your **faith** with virtue, and **virtue** with knowledge, and **knowledge** with self-control, and **self-control** with steadfastness, and **steadfastness** with godliness, and **godliness** with brotherly affection, and **brotherly affection** with **love**.”  
(2 Peter 1:5–7)

Because God gives us all the things we need for life and godliness, we are able to make every effort to grow in holiness by adopting practices that create space for those virtues to flourish in our lives through the work of the Holy Spirit. Jackie Hill Perry says, “Being kept by God does not mean that you be lazy about the practice of sanctification.”<sup>6</sup> So we don’t do “let go and let God”; instead, we say that *all things, including my hard mom work, are “from Him and through Him and to Him”* (Rom. 11:36).

We pursue holiness by following God’s good plan for our lives presented in the commands of Scripture. Holiness produces both transformation and fruit. “For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:8). The last thing I want to be as a mom is an ineffective and unfruitful sovereign of my own kingdom. Grace is both the beginning of our salvation story and the ending. It permeates the middle portion and empowers our work for God’s kingdom, but we cannot





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