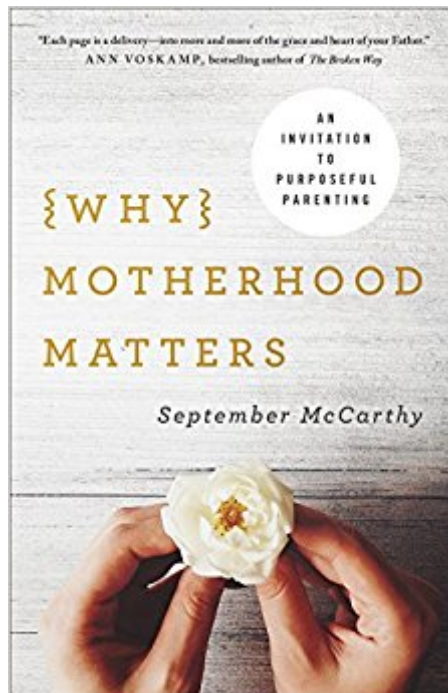




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# Why Motherhood Matters: An Invitation To Purposeful Parenting



## Synopsis

Mama, Your Work Has Deep Worth Do you ever wonder if your efforts as a mom make any difference? Take heart. Whether you're struggling through sleepless nights with your toddler or endless battles with your teen, September McCarthy's story offers practical insights and powerful inspiration to encourage you on your own mothering journey. As a mom for 25 years who continues to raise young children and love her young adults, September imparts words of wisdom and grace in key areas of Christian parenting, including...faith • getting honest with your family about your need for Jesuswellness • learning to take care of your kids...and yourselfeducation • raising a new generation with creativity and characterrelationships • speaking to the heart of your children in unique waysIn these pages you'll find sweet anecdotes and gentle guidance for those moments you need both a breather and a lifeline. Motherhood is an incredible labor of love • and in the scope of eternity, it matters more than you know.

## Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Harvest House Publishers (September 1, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0736970061

ISBN-13: 978-0736970068

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 58 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #6,305 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Family #58 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Women's Issues #980 in Books > Religion & Spirituality

## Customer Reviews

"The labor of motherhood never ends and sometimes it's hard to remember how to breathe. These pages are like a breathing coach. And each page is a delivery into more and more of the grace and heart of your Father. Motherhood matters because what matters like sculpting souls with your Father?" • Ann Voskamp, mama to 7, New York Times bestselling author of *The Broken Way* and *One Thousand Gifts*"For years I've wished I could live next door to September McCarthy. She is the mother we all want to grow up to be and this book is the next best thing to

sitting at her kitchen table. For every mom who's wanted a mentor, a big mama sister, and a practical guide all rolled into one, get ready to be fed. Here comes the mother lode of guilt-free advice from the mother to moms everywhere." —Lisa-Jo Baker, bestselling author of *Never Unfriended* and *Surprised by Motherhood* "September's beautiful words about the journey of motherhood will touch deep places in your heart, provide sympathy for the struggles you have felt, and offer joy and vision to the role that is so profoundly important. You will find in her own personal stories a friend who walks the journey of motherhood by your side." —Sally Clarkson, author of *The Lifegiving Home* and *Different*

September McCarthy believes every woman needs someone to speak into her life with understanding and truth. She encourages women in each season of motherhood through her blog *One September Day* and her ministry *Raising Generations Today*. As a speaker and writer, her vision and mission is for the generations. September lives in rural Upstate New York with her husband and their large family.

I am grateful for "Why Motherhood Matters"! Why? Because those of us in the trenches often feel like it does not. Most in the world today tell us it does not. When ask "What do you do?" ... "Mom" is considered a lackluster answer followed by raised eyebrows that seem to communicate an "that's all?" attitude. September is a woman who has been in the trenches of motherhood and has been through all aspects of it. She has raised children and is still raising children. She has battled disappointments and the struggle of juggling the demands of relationships, education, marriage, and home logistics and is not saying "follow me" but is saying "Follow Jesus!". She is an encouragement to us all. This book is filled with philosophical answers to the "why" but is also practical in advice as to "how". She shares her own experiences of failures and success. Her words are shared in genuine meekness and firm conviction that God's ways are best. Read it...you will be encouraged, challenged and instructed. I was!

September didn't just write her own story in this book although there were many personal stories (which I loved) that illustrated her important and valuable lessons/messages. What she offers to readers is her many years of experience, her understanding heart and her rich faith in God, which will cheer mothers along on the wonderful, rewarding, tiring and taxing journey called motherhood. This book is more than a quick read. It is one that stimulates personal reflection and will be a great tool for working through

one's own struggles and challenges. September is an obvious teacher and really cares about women. She views motherhood as a sisterhood and comes alongside to offer tenderness, encouragement, ideas, and helpful scriptures, but more importantly, she offers an honest and helpful view from one who is still raising children but who has also raised a few to adulthood and is able to clearly see the fruit of her many labors. In *Why Motherhood Matters*, September lays out the "Whys" of motherhood, which will be especially helpful to those who are going through a dry time, or for those who just feel pulled a thousand different directions and are questioning the worth of their days. I can see women marking places in this book and going back to it again and again.

*Motherhood Matters* is a book every single mom needs to read and reference many times over during their journey through all the hills, valleys, highs, lows and stages of motherhood! If I could afford to gift every single mom in my life with their own copy, I would--it's that good (I did buy a few to bless friends). September writes in such a way that makes you feel as if you are sitting beside her, listening to her story and lessons learned in her 26 year motherhood journey. She is the mentor and friend every mom wishes she had to help navigate through motherhood and to speak truth in our days. Every single word on every single page spoke directly to my heart. It is as if she knew exactly where I'm at in my personal motherhood journey and just what I needed to hear to know that I'm doing the hard, yet faithful work by staying home to care for my 4 children. The days are most definitely long and mundane, but September reminds us that we are doing Godly work and that it is far more valuable than any other work. Just a few quotes to share from the book. "Motherhood may feel like a sprint, but it is a slow, careful run to the biggest victory plan ever. Roadblocks and defeat will surely come, but He wants us to come forth as gold." ~September McCarthy "Love begins in the home. If you cannot love your family well, then how will you love others?" ~ September McCarthy "Mothers have the power to shift and stabilize the atmosphere of their families and can turn a day right side up or upside down." ~ September McCarthy I filled up many pages of quotes and notes as I devoured the pages of this book. September not only shares her personal stories, but also includes practical advice, resources, parenting principles and prayers throughout the entire book. She writes about marriage, yelling, teaching responsibility, overwhelm, interrupting/whining, serving and much more. This is a book I will be referring to frequently throughout the many stages of motherhood. It's not a book that you will read once and set aside or pass on to someone else. It is a book that you will reach for on your most trying days to find hope, encouragement, truth and inspiration to be the best mom for your kids and to bring the joy into the everyday. I can't recommend

this book enough. Buy a copy for yourself and some more to gift away. The perfect gift for blessing a brand new mom as well as a seasoned mom who is in the trenches and really struggling. It is for every mom in between as well. I was blessed with an advanced reader copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

This book...tears, smiles, and sighs about sums it up for me. September McCarthy does a fantastic job of coming along side you through her words. Encouraging you, giving you tips, hope, and a healthy dose of reality, all served up with the singular truth that we can NOT do motherhood alone. We need God. Her writing is pleasing and easy to digest, without making you feel that you are a lost cause. I'm planning on buying a bunch more to share with friends. Every mother, no matter what season, needs this book.

A mother's love is a precious love, and motherhood matters when her little ones are truly little and when they grow up and are off on their own. Why Motherhood Matters is one of the books I couldn't put down for long. September McCarthy's words refreshed me in places where I needed encouragement. As a mom of a 21-year old, I found myself looking back to many places of mothering in the past. No matter where you are in mothering, this is a book you must read! It is filled with beautiful stories that will touch your heart, make you cry, and give you renewed energy (if your kiddos are still little) and renewed hope to continue the mothering journey. I loved how September wrote from such a heart of compassion to her readers and was honest about some of the painful places in her life of mothering. It truly is a blessing to be able to read the words of September McCarthy. Beautiful mothering and examples to give you hope no matter where you are on the mothering journey. I received a copy of this book in advance in exchange for my honest review.

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