



2024 Conference Workshop Descriptions

~Friday Workshops~

From Fringe, to Movement, to Enduring Institution: How Christian Homeschooling Can Serve and Lead the World Today

Jim Mason, HSLDA President
Friday, 8:45, Ambassador Room

Homeschooling in America is freer from restrictions and more accessible than ever. One major reason for this is the advocacy of HSLDA over the past 40 years. With so many successes, you'd think that homeschooling would have convinced critics of its place as a proven educational option. However, this year we've witnessed yet another wave of persecution aimed at home education. Christian homeschoolers have shown that we are uniquely equipped to serve and lead our culture. As individuals and as a mature institution, we must do what only followers of Christ can do—draw our neighbors to the gospel that offers forgiveness, sustenance, guidance, and reconciliation. We need to champion homeschooling as an enduring institution—one that continues to shape the character of children by encouraging and modeling virtue.

Raising Children With a Biblical Worldview in a Hostile World

Zan Tyler
KEYNOTE Friday, 9:00, Ambassador Room

Our children live in the midst of a secular, anti-Christian culture, facing issues and moral dilemmas we never had to deal with at their age. Meanwhile, startling numbers of young adults raised in evangelical homes are abandoning their faith. Training our children with a strong biblical worldview and deep spiritual roots is crucial to our mission as Christian parents and is one of the most important gifts we can give them. In this workshop you will gain insight on teaching your children how to think biblically about all areas of life, including academics. This will equip them to become powerful, faith-filled thinkers and leaders who can stand firm in the face of skepticism and opposition.

Impact of Social Media On Daughters

Joe Tyler
Friday, 10:30, Ambassador

We are witnessing an alarming rise in the rates of depression and suicidal tendencies among teenage girls today. Is social media to blame? Join Joe Tyler as he takes a deep dive into the world of social media, examining the challenges that young girls face including body image issues, cyberbullying, and unrealistic beauty standards. With constant connectivity to smart phones, the threats of social media are lurking everywhere, even in places as seemingly innocent as chatrooms in Bible apps. Now is the time to

help your daughters develop a biblical self-image, a vibrant faith, and practical strategies for successfully navigating the dangers of the digital age.

Hold Your Horses: Training Your Children to Bridle Their Will

Stephanie Smith
Friday, 10:30, Salon A

Raising a child is a lot like training a wild horse—a creature ruled by appetites and resistant to submission. Parents will understand the relationship between the mind, will, and emotions and how to become a trainer, passing the reins successfully to their child at the right time.

Story Power: Storytelling Basics for Kids and Teens

Phyllis Wheeler
Friday, 10:30, Salon C

Author Phyllis Wheeler from New Classics Study Guides will teach storytelling basics for kids and teens. Want to write a short story? Tell a good campfire tale? Plan a video? Teach a new skill to the unique learner in your family?

Reciprocating Respect

Allie Slocum
Friday, 10:30, Salon F

Attendees will be introduced to the virtue of respect and learn about the life of George Washington Carver. They will also be given tips to reciprocate respect in the family.

Ten Things Every Homeschool Parent Should Remember

Kathie Morrissey
Friday, 10:45, Lobby/Courtyard

Homeschooling is more about discipling than academics. We are investing in eternity as we prepare our children to serve God. There is no higher calling. Many times we forget this and other truths and get distracted from our purpose and goals of homeschooling. Kathie will give 10 key things every homeschooler should remember. You will be encouraged and inspired as she reminds you of these very important thoughts you need to regularly keep before you.



Homeschooling With Confidence: Understanding Kansas and Missouri Homeschool Law

Scott Woodruff, HSLDA
Friday, 10:45, Salon B

Homeschooling without a complete understanding of what the law requires is not only scary, but can result in terrible legal situations that are hard to imagine. The good news is it is simple to prepare yourself for home educating in Kansas and Missouri. Come get all the facts from your regional representative, HSLDA attorney Scott Woodruff.

Exploring Homeschooling Methods

Nancy Bjorkman
Friday, 10:45, Salon D/E

This engaging workshop will review several different teaching approaches found in homeschooling and then help attendees identify resources and curricula to fit their family's particular style. Just getting started in homeschooling? Needing to refocus and redefine what homeschooling could look like for your family? Come benefit from Nancy's over 30 years of experience and enjoy her dynamic style.

Overcome Writing Roadblocks: Strategies to Create Success and Fun in the Writing Process

Suzanne Wandling
Friday, 10:45, Truman (Holiday Inn)

Stuck. Blank Stares. Meltdowns. Procrastination. Sound familiar? Reluctant or developing writers may be easily overwhelmed with the demands of writing. Parents will learn easy-to-implement strategies to build writing, language, and executive function skills. Reduce the stress and make writing fun for students with new tips and tools!

Preparing Homeschooled Families for Higher Education

Reece Tabor
Friday, 10:45, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

Navigating the transition from homeschooling to college can be difficult for many families. Most public schools have counselors who help with the countless obvious and obscure details related to attending a college or university. Many homeschool families are anxious or nervous about the college process. The good news is that as a whole, homeschooled students statically are more prepared for college than any other form of education. The aim of this presentation is to provide information and a few tips and tricks across Academics, Financial Aid, and Extra-Curricular activities for navigating the transition from homeschooling to higher education.

Fun Family ActorsBible Experience

Benjamin Myers
Friday, 12:15-1:15, Ambassador

Audience participation event! Join Benjamin Myers of ActorsBible as he shares his testimony, highlighting the need for Family Discipleship, then invites the audience to choose a Bible Account from his projected ActorsBible App. Volunteers of dads, moms, kids, grandparents will be invited to play the parts in the scene, and the rest of the audience is casted as the crowd. Do a trial run of what scripted Bible drama can look like in your home: practice a Scripture Song, and listen to the AudioDrama, put on costumes/props and then enact the scene using a teleprompter that spoon feeds lines to the actors and experience projected visual backdrops of the HolyLands, music and sing along lyrics. At the conclusion, Ben will ask people in the audience and the casted players "What did you learn about God, another character, and what will you obey from this story?" Prizes are given to all participants!

Prayer: A Parent's Most Powerful Tool

Kathie Morrissey
Friday, 1:30, Ambassador

The battle for our children's lives should be fought on our knees! Prayer is the most important part of rearing our children. Why? Because God can do what we cannot do. Kathie will share several practical prayer ideas, as well as suggestions for some of the things we should pray for regarding our children. Being a praying parent makes a difference, and we need to commit to praying daily for our kids.

From Lesson Plans to Laundry: Tips for Juggling Homeschooling & Homemaking

Stephanie McPhilomy
Friday, 1:30, Salon A

Life as a homeschooling parent comes with its own set of challenges, and when you add homemaking responsibilities to the mix, the juggling act can seem overwhelming. This workshop is not just about surviving; it's about thriving in the dual role of educator and homemaker. Explore practical tips and tricks that will transform your daily routine into a well-choreographed dance of homeschooling and homemaking success!



Christian Leadership Through the Arts

Jeremiah Enna
Friday, 1:30, Salon C

Christianity has suffered from a decreasing influence in American culture partly due to its lack of involvement and leadership in the arts and media world. And yet, God has given the arts as a gift to steward; many people are equipped with talents intended to inspire a generation to know and love God first. Jeremiah Enna shares the Biblical vision that God gives to us to use our gifts to steward our world. He draws extensively on over 35 years of experience as a performing artist and now producer of world-class art from a Christian worldview. He will also present the various programs that The Culture House has developed including their accredited, bachelor degree program and more.

Personal Learning Profiles: Teach Them The Way They Learn!

Nancy Percy & Sue Nothstine
Friday, 1:30, Salon F

Do you know how you and your children learn? What if you are teaching your children the way you learn, but that is not how they learn? In this fun, interactive workshop, we will show you how to create Learning Profiles for yourself and your children. You will discover how personality types, learning styles, love languages, grit, and self-esteem affect learning and behavior and how to personalize your teaching.

Homeschooling By Faith

Deb Weakly
Friday, 1:45, Lobby/Courtyard

Friend, God has great plans for your homeschool that are exceedingly, abundantly above all that you can ask or imagine. He really does! No matter your level of education or organization, God can do anything, and He will help you homeschool your children as you come to Him. Join Deb Weakly from Help Club for Moms for encouragement, ideas, and practical advice to help you have the best homeschool year ever!

Marketable Skills

Andi Elliott

Friday, 1:45, Salon B

Let's look at Marketable Skills! Your kids are never too young to start learning marketable skills, work habits, knowledge, and character traits that are crucial for success in home, school, and beyond! These skills can be applied in a variety of settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas. This class will talk about the importance of learning these skills and how it will set your child up to succeed! We will talk about what makes a skill marketable, how it will expand the knowledge base of yourself and your child, and how it will impact your family and future. You will leave with some practical tips and ideas on how to start integrating marketable skills into your homeschool.

Redeeming the Mother/ Daughter Relationship

Brandi Huerta
Friday, 1:45, Salon D/E

How can you parent a daughter well when your own relationship with your mother was difficult, even abusive? Are you doomed to repeat the sinful cycles you learned in your own family? Join me for a practical discussion about how you can be transformed into the likeness of Christ and begin to model a different picture of the Lord to your daughter, no matter your ages.

Yes, You Can Homeschool a Child With Special Needs

Natalina and Svetlana Ehlers
Friday, 1:45, Truman (Holiday Inn)

Svetlana will be joined by her mother, Natalina Ehlers, who has homeschooled three struggling learners and also has taught for the Unique Learner Track for the past three years. In this presentation, we will share insights from our perspective on how to teach a Unique Learner. We will provide valuable strategies on self-advocacy, fostering independence in students' learning, effective assessment techniques, and navigating forward when faced with challenges. Discover how to instill confidence and equip yourself with resources to propel you forward. Join us in this engaging session and learn practical approaches to support unique learners, building a path toward success and empowerment. Yes, you can!



Preparing My Homeschooled Student for a Fulfilling College Experience

Brian Barber

Friday, 1:45, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

How can you send your child off to college well? What do you need to know about sending your student to a Bible College? How do a Christian college, community college, or big state university differ? What should you consider before selecting a college, besides your student's choice in major? How do Homeschooled students tend to fare in college? Join Brian Barber as he addresses these questions and more about college admission for your student.

Help! I'm Homeschooling an Unmotivated Child

Zan Tyler

Friday, 3:00, Ambassador

Infusing our children's lives with motivation instead of having to drag them from one lesson to the next—is that even possible? Most of us are just trying to keep them on task in the midst of math anxiety, sibling rivalry, mounds of laundry, and the daily demands of life. Now imagine this: as you lead your children intentionally through their day, they learn and grow exponentially as you work to cultivate their strengths and encourage their faith. This isn't a dream—it IS possible! Zan Tyler shares four power-packed principles you can use right away to motivate your children and raise a family of mountain movers.

Finding Homeschool Resources, Not Outsourcing Homeschooling

Erin McGhee

Friday, 3:00, Salon A

This workshop helps parents identify ways to find resources to help them homeschool successfully without feeling like they have to outsource the education of their children to someone else. We will cover where to find resources from kindergarten through high school to create a peaceful homeschool atmosphere and rhythm for success.

Boy, Oh Boy: Raising Men of Depth and Character

Stephanie Smith

Friday, 3:00, Salon C

Boys can be exhausting, exhilarating, confusing, and comforting. What makes them tick? How can moms (and dads) raise boys to be men when the definition of "manhood" is ill-defined in our culture without resorting to simplistic stereotypes? Packed with information on the physical, emotional, and mental make-up of boys and addressing significant challenges they face, parents will be outfitted with practical and powerful tools to build boys into men of depth and character.

Face to Face: How the Arts Can Help Our Children See And Care For Others

Greenleaf Panel

Friday, 3:00, Salon F

This will be a panel of parents and young adults discussing with our guests how the performing arts create empathy, conversing and community in our lives. In a high screen world, the arts can help us return to these basic interpersonal skills!

Respect to Whom Respect Is Due

Brandi Huerta

Friday, 3:15, Lobby/Courtyard

In a world characterized by selfish ambition and rebellion, all Christians are called to be self-controlled and honoring toward their fellow image bearers, particularly to those in authority over them. What does it look like for a godly woman to model Christ in these ways? How can you be an ally to your husband, even (and especially) if he is difficult? Join Brandi Huerta for a practical, engaging conversation about displaying courage and grace in and beyond your marriage.

How Do You Teach Sex Ed In Your Homeschool?

Shanxi Omoniyi

Friday, 3:15, Salon B

"I can't wait to tell my children all about the birds and bees!" said no parent ever. Why can it be so hard to have "the talk" with our children, especially if we spend every day with them homeschooling? Drawing from her experience, MPE alumna Shanxi Omoniyi explores how her parents taught sex education in their homeschool with wisdom, grace and humility (along with a hefty dose of humor!). She also addresses age-appropriate guidelines from birth to young adulthood. NOTE: This workshop is intended for adults only.

Culture and Values

Dan Schwabauer

Friday 3:15 Salon D/E

How to guide your children with wisdom in an age of cultural upheaval: it is essential that parents learn to help their children navigate the bewildering intersections of culture and values. It can be difficult to diagnose what causes wrong turns—too often our attempts to parent wisely are based on inaccurate presuppositions. Join Daniel Schwabauer for a revealing look at the nature of American culture and how it affects generational change.



Creating a Sensational Homeschool - Using Sensory Processing as a Foundation

Jean Wetherilt

Friday, 3:15, Truman (Holiday Inn)

The brain and nervous system of each of our children can be primed and ready to learn when we understand personal sensory preferences and learning styles and then adapt the environment and curriculum accordingly. In this workshop we will explore ways to understand your homeschooling students to better match your plan to fit their individual needs. Be ready for a brief neurology lesson plus learn fun and effective tools to use immediately in your homeschool.

Transitioning from Homeschool to Community College

Denise Filley & Rhiannon Minster

Friday, 3:15, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

Come learn how homeschool students can begin their journey at Johnson County Community College. Denise and Rhiannon, JCCC Counselors, will share how homeschool students could be eligible to start college credits while in high school, get a jump start on degrees, give details on transfer preparation to four-year colleges and universities, and explain benefits of dual credit enrollment for both high school and college credit. You'll learn how to enroll your student, what onboarding looks like, where to get academic counseling and how to get started at JCCC.

Building a Strong Marriage While You Homeschool

Zan and Joe Tyler

Friday, 4:30, Ambassador

Zan was Joe's best friend and ministry partner in college. He loved her and wanted to know how she felt about him. Even though they had never dated, Joe proposed out of the blue during their junior year—and Zan didn't speak to him for a month! In spite of this rocky start, the Tylers have thoroughly enjoyed more than 40 years of marriage. They've experienced abundant joys and triumphs and have weathered many storms. Among Joe's responsibilities at home, he is in charge of attitude adjustments and comic relief. Zan says, "Being able to laugh through the years has helped me survive things like threats of jail, the pressures of homeschooling, and the stress of life in general!" Enjoy this refreshing session of laughter and encouragement as Joe and Zan share candidly about the ups and downs of married life—including their biggest fight ever—while focusing on principles that have served to form the unshakeable foundation of their marriage. You'll learn how embracing the magnificent biblical vision of marriage is the key to a vibrant relationship.

Homeschooling Through Burnout, Grief, and Loss

Erin McGhee

Friday, 4:30, Salon A

What happens when life (or death) occurs and you are a homeschool mom? In this session Erin will share what she learned about homeschooling through grief and loss. She will discuss how to come up with a plan so when things come up, your homeschool doesn't fall apart.

Keeping Your Co-Op Safe

AJ Nourse

Friday, 4:30, Salon C

You have everything lined out for your co-op: classes, location, and teachers. Have you thought about a safety plan? We will provide a basic safety checklist and walk you through the steps you need to take before, during and after the students are in your care, covering topics such as paperwork, first aid, and emergency plans for your co-op.

Nutrition 101: Healthy Brain in a Toxic World

Sera Johnson

Friday, 4:30, Salon F

Learn how to train up a healthy generation in a world full of convenience food and harmful toxins using award-winning nutrition and health curriculum "Nutrition 101: Choose Life!" for all grades and ages as a health or science credit. Discover God's good food and nutrients that support a healthy brain and the body's ability to eliminate harmful toxins. Plus, find out how aromatherapy supports optimal brain health, sensory integration and learning potential.

Three Tips for Parenting Strong-Willed Children

Deb Weakly

Friday, 4:45, Lobby/ Courtyard

Parenting strong-willed children can be exhausting, tiring, and humbling. Mama, God has great plans for your spirited children and will help you raise them up and enjoy a close relationship with them as adults!



Adolescence: Thriving During the Great Brain Remodel

Stephanie Smith
Friday, 4:45, Salon B

The brain undergoes a marvelous and mysterious remodel during adolescence, roughly between ages 12-24. This has a profound impact on an adolescent's priorities, perspectives, and behavior. Learn the essentials of this physical process and how you can parent with courage, compassion, and confidence.

Mentoring Moms, One Story at a Time

Cathy Ruchte
Friday, 4:45, Salon D/E

Do you want to see your children and grandchildren growing in Christ-like character? Do you want to see their minds being renewed (Romans 12:2)? Cathy has a heart for teaching the truths of God's Word through hope-filled stories of God's grace, love and redemption. Grab your favorite drink, pen and notebook as Cathy takes you on a literature journey that will not only impact the way and how you read, but also the hearts and minds of your children.

The Shift From Learning to Read to Reading to Learn: How Parents Can Help Students Understand Academic Reading

Linda Alexander
Friday, 4:45, Truman (Holiday Inn)

In this workshop, parents will explore what Reading to Learn means in relation to academic reading and writing. The theoretical frameworks involved in the development of adolescent literacy will be discussed along with specific hands-on ideas to help parents engage their students while they are reading more complex academic content.

Adult Children: Making the Transition from Parenting Teens to Friendship with Peers

Bill Ward
Friday, 4:45, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

Just when you thought parenting teenagers was as hard as it could get, your children are now young adults, making decisions and doing things you could have never foreseen. What do you do now? Do you strongly apply your "wisdom" to your children's perspectives, or let them go and "let the chips fall where they may"? When do you support them in the way they are going, and when do you quietly hold back or even share your caution? These and many other questions come up when your children reach their 20s. Come hear how you can build relationships with your teenagers and young adults today, to ward off relational dangers in the future. Learn how you can repair hurting and broken relationships with your children, and allow God to bring reconciliation and restoration to set both you and your adult children free to launch into their life's calling.



2024 Conference Workshop Descriptions

~Saturday Workshops~

Conquering Fear as a Homeschooling Mom

Zan Tyler

Saturday, 9:00, Ambassador

Do you have moments of panic when you wonder if you're failing to give your children all they need to succeed in life? Do you secretly worry that you're actually ruining their lives instead of blessing and equipping them? Do you wake up in the middle of the night plagued by items on the to-do list that remain undone, knowing there isn't enough time in the day to accomplish them all? Well, there might be a few other moms who have felt the same way, and Zan Tyler is one of them. But we have a faithful God who is full of surprises, and Zan delights in sharing how God longs to meet, redeem, and empower us in the midst of our weaknesses, worries, and even catastrophes—so that He is magnified through us!

Three Tips for a Great Marriage

Deb Weakly

Saturday, 9:00, Salon A

Mama, God has great plans for your marriage! No matter if your marriage has grown stale and dry or if you're in a flourishing season, there are always ways your marriage can improve! With God, all things are possible! Join Deb for encouragement, practical ideas, and prayer to help your relationship with your husband thrive!

Supernatural Selection

Brian Young

Saturday, 9:00, Salon C

Hear Brian Young, Director of the Creation Instruction Association, explain how even creationists have not truly defined natural selection correctly. New evidence in epigenetics is blowing evolution out of the water and revealing how natural selection is a form of idol worship.

His Grace Is Sufficient For You

Kara Friedline

Saturday, 9:00, Salon F

Until Jesus comes back, this world will continue to be broken and needy. And though that means we will experience trials and struggles, we can experience His peace and joy even in the midst of the difficulties. Kara will discuss: finding herself in a broken marriage, why, as a single parent, she chose to continue homeschooling, how can a single mom afford to homeschool, choosing to be a prayer-maker, joy-giver and life-chooser kind of mom. Kara will reassure you that the perfect homeschooling family doesn't exist, and God is still faithful!

Keep Going Mama

Mari Jo Mast

Saturday, 9:15, Lobby/Courtyard

Sweet Mom, do you often feel unappreciated, unnoticed, as you serve your family? Do you, at times, feel like throwing in the towel? Be refreshed as Mari Jo shares her heart and experience as a mom to her large family. She will share strategic keys that have helped her keep a heavenly perspective to stay the course.

Reach the Summit While Still Breathing: How to Homeschool and Live to Celebrate It

Stephanie Smith

Saturday, 9:15, Salon B

Home schooling is more like scaling Mt. Everest than strolling through Central Park. How can you climb with confidence instead of fear? How can you avoid an avalanche of activities, the trap of perfectionism, and the craters of exhaustion? What is required to reach the summit and not be wiped out? You'll meet the five essential guides for a successful journey. An encouraging message of substance, seasoned with mirth.



How to Find and Use Jobs Data for Career Planning

Kerin Groves
Saturday, 9:15, Salon D/E

When teens and young adults are making plans for the future, they need realistic information about the current job market. Career coach Dr. Kerin Groves will help parents to find and use up-to-date sources of data on career sectors, the labor market, salary trends, local/regional employment patterns, economic forecasts, job requirements, and education/training options. Attendees will learn to separate myths and assumptions from facts and real data.

Multi-Sensory Reading Strategies That Work

Suzanne Wandling
Saturday, 9:15, Truman (Holiday Inn)

Reading is an adventure! Developing readers of all ages benefit from active, multi-sensory learning, which includes visual, auditory, and kinesthetic strategies. Learn the Five Areas of Reading with an emphasis on engaging, hands-on activities. Take home new ideas which can be implemented right away!

Homeschooling Through High School

Nancy Bjorkman
Saturday, 9:15, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

This very popular, interactive workshop will help to answer frequently asked questions about homeschooling through the high school years. We will consider course requirements, transcripts, record keeping, curriculum choices, dual enrollment opportunities, co-ops, CLEP and other testing options, resumes, career assessments, and more. Attendees will leave with the tools necessary and the confidence needed to homeschool through high school.

How to Get Your Kids Excited About Learning

Jared Dodd
Saturday, 10:30, Ambassador

Do you have to prod your children from assignment to assignment? Do they find homeschooling to be boring or a burden? If education isn't fun and exciting, then something needs to change. Come and learn how to turn your child from a lazy student to one of initiative, hard work, and dedication.

"Your Kingdom Come," In My Home

Mari Jo Mast
Saturday, 10:30, Salon A

Many of us can recite The Lord's Prayer by memory, but do we understand what Jesus wants us to know when He prayed this prayer and commanded us to do the same? What is the Kingdom of Heaven, where is it, and how can we bring it (practically speaking), into our homes as mothers? What does the Kingdom look like in our everyday homeschooling journey? Join Mari Jo Mast, mother of seven, for encouragement and ideas to help you bring God's Kingdom into your home and life.

Worldviews in Literature

Daniel Schwabauer
Saturday, 10:30, Salon C

If analyzing literature makes your head swim, check out this poolside floatie. We'll learn to take apart great books using a concept any high school student can grasp: the four layers of meaning. Students and teachers alike will benefit from this simple but profound approach to interpreting literature. You will wonder why your high school teacher didn't explain books this way. And you'll be able to separate a book's message from its method.

Forging Forgiveness

Allie Slocum
Saturday, 10:30, Salon F

Attendees will experience an interactive forgiveness activity, learn about the life of Corrie Ten Boom, and hear ways to forge forgiveness in their family.

Making an Impact: The Vision of Homeschool Dad & Husband

Joe Tyler
Saturday, 10:45, Lobby/Courtyard

A mobile phone commercial features an NBA point guard trying to play basketball blindfolded. Because he can't see the goal, he's never sure if he's scoring. Too often, men take on the multifaceted roles of husband, father, shepherd, principal, coach, and disciplinarian without the vision necessary to define and accomplish their ultimate goal. With humor and real-world examples, Joe Tyler helps you define the goal and shares how to discover the divinely appointed means of achieving it. You may even learn the secret to making your wife deliriously happy, turning your home into a peaceful kingdom, ensuring your children are successful beyond measure, and placing your father-in-law in awe of your great accomplishments. Join Joe for a robust



discussion of what it really means to make an impact as a Christian husband and dad.

Raising Kids With Grace: The Line Between Instructing and Judging

Scott Woodruff, HSLDA
Saturday, 10:45, Salon B

Parenting is tough. When our kids do wrong, how can we respond to them in a way that comes across as caring and gracious, rather than as judgmental or critical? This presentation will give you solid Biblical answers.

Start a Small Business With Your Kids

Andi Elliott
Saturday, 10:45, Salon D/E

Have you ever wondered what it would take to start a small business with your family? Let's talk about requirements, business plans, carrying out ideas, and planning for failure. This will be an overview of taking an idea and moving through planning, starting a business, looking at bookkeeping and COGS, margin, and the inevitable struggles that come with starting a small business. This class can apply to your corner lemonade stand all the way up to a family business. Andi has a passion for entrepreneurship and loves to help kids learn the ins and outs of owning a small business. Through the years she has had several businesses and is very well versed in the day to day process and the wisdom that comes with trying new things!

Navigating the World of Dyslexia

Katie Artz
Saturday, 10:45, Truman (Holiday Inn)

This workshop will go through what dyslexia is, its characteristics, and what to do when you find yourself on the journey of having a child with dyslexia.

The Gap Year Advantage

Mark Nielsen
Saturday, 10:45, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

Are you prepared for life after high school? Are you seeking authentic relationships, significance and success while at the same time desiring to make your faith relevant to your vocation and life? Come hear how you or your child can grow in compassion, character and faith while developing the imagination, moral courage and tenacity to lead in all walks of life!

Fun Family ActorsBible Experience

Benjamin Myers
Friday, 12:15-1:15, Ambassador

Audience participation event! Join Benjamin Myers of ActorsBible as he shares his testimony, highlighting the need for Family Discipleship, then invites the audience to choose a Bible Account from his projected ActorsBible App. Volunteers of dads, moms, kids, grandparents will be invited to play the parts in the scene, and the rest of the audience is casted as the crowd. Do a trial run of what scripted Bible drama can look like in your home: practice a Scripture Song, and listen to the AudioDrama, put on costumes/props and then enact the scene using a teleprompter that spoon feeds lines to the actors and experience projected visual backdrops of the HolyLands, music and sing along lyrics. At the conclusion, Ben will ask people in the audience and the casted players, "What did you learn about God, another character, and what will you obey from this story?" Prizes are given to all participants!

How to Get Dads Involved With Homeschooling

Jared Dodd
Saturday, 1:30, Ambassador

In recent years, homeschooling has become a responsibility placed solely on mothers. The Scriptures, however, give a very different recipe for success in training up children in the ways of God. In this workshop, fathers will learn not only the vision that God has for them in the area of homeschooling, but also some great ideas for being involved in their greatest calling. Dads are essential to their children's education.

Simple Systems for the Homeschooling Family

Rachael Alsbury
Saturday, 1:30, Salon A

Go from chaos to calm with simple systems and processes designed for the homeschooling family. Get tools for planning your year, managing housework, and connecting with your kids while homeschooling. Best of all, learn how to create your own unique systems that serve your family's season and needs.



My LO (Loved One) Doesn't Want To Homeschool. Now What?

Shanxi Omoniyi
Saturday, 1:30, Salon C

If close family members or friends are less than thrilled about your choice to homeschool, take heart! Many parents experience this challenge as they start. While firsthand experience of homeschool's joys and benefits usually quells most concerns over time, you can take proactive steps now to address their questions, provide research and evidence to support your viewpoints, and make a fantastic case for homeschooling - in terms so compelling and reasonable as to help ensure their agreement!

Schooling Through Difficult Seasons

Andi Elliott
Saturday, 1:30, Salon F

Sometimes life can be a little overwhelming. You can easily go from your plate being full to your plate spilling over! How do you keep up with homeschooling and keep organized? Learn about grace and organization in this class. Take home practical tips that will help you keep looking forward towards your goal. We will cover topics like keeping a practical planner and setting achievable goals, how to work around a less-than-perfect schedule, how to get enrichment opportunities that might suit the whole family. Let's talk about how to have that fulfilling homeschool experience in the midst of the busy.

It's Easier Than You Think to Teach Writing Like A Pro

Zan Tyler
Saturday, 1:45, Lobby/Courtyard

Do you feel at a loss when trying to teach your kids and teens to write? Do you ever dread working on writing assignments with them? Zan Tyler has served as an executive, developmental, and acquisitions editor for websites and traditional publishing companies, including B&H Publishers in Nashville, Tennessee. Join Zan as she draws from her professional experience to give you down-to-earth advice on how to encourage the writing process in your children—while building stronger relationships with them and avoiding meltdowns. It is easier than you think to teach writing like a pro.

God-Given Destiny

Daniel Schwabauer
Saturday, 1:45, Salon B

You were created to make a difference. You were made for something big. So why does life always seem to get in the way of your hopes and dreams? What happens in the teen years and beyond to stifle the life-purpose given to every believer? The answer may be more simple—and more challenging—than you think. Discover the plain truth about how to change history as you pursue your God-given destiny. Daniel Schwabauer, award-winning author and speaker, will show you how to change the world in your spare time.

Frustrated, Stressed...and Maybe A Little Angry

Kathie Morrissey
Saturday, 1:45, Salon D/E

Are you a frustrated homeschooling parent? Many homeschooling parents struggle with stress, anger, and discouragement. Kathie discusses several causes of frustration and then tells how to deal with them. She also stresses the importance of dealing with anger and having the right spirit in dealing with our children.

Supporting Your Child's Speech and Language Development

Jennifer Doerfler
Saturday, 1:45, Truman (Holiday Inn)

Speech and language skills are the foundation for communication, social interaction, and academic success. During this workshop, we'll provide information about speech and language developmental milestones and how parents can support their child's progress. We'll also discuss what to do if you have concerns about your child's development and how to access speech therapy services that fit the needs of your family.

Sons of American Revolution Youth Awards & Scholarships

Bruce Smith
Saturday, 1:45, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

Come hear Bruce Smith, a Sons of American Revolution Trustee representing Kansas, describe award contests for your elementary, middle, and high school students. There are so many great opportunities and prizes! Bruce will explain the application process, themes, assessments process, and awards for individual and group contest applicants.



Raising G-Rated Boys in an R-Rated World

Joe Tyler
Saturday, 3:00, Ambassador

****For men only**** Joe Tyler discusses the key issues dads face as we strive to instill a Christ-centered vision in our sons. Joe addresses the cultural pressures on our young men and shares practical advice for countering the culture and instilling a vision of purity in both our sons and daughters. Because of the frank and sensitive nature of this discussion, we request that only men attend.

Homeschooling in Crisis

Andi Elliott
Saturday, 3:00, Salon A

Sometimes life takes our breath away, in amazing ways and sometimes in disastrous ways. Sometimes that season of hard becomes a lifestyle or a “new normal.” When you are in the middle of catastrophe, how do you keep moving forward with the things that are important to you: homeschooling, meal planning, day to day “normal”? Often we battle with our own disappointment and discouragement when life doesn’t go the way we expected. Learn from Andi’s story of her daughter Charlotte, who was diagnosed with a catastrophic and terminal medical disorder that changed not only their schedule, but also their life. This class will cover how to make room amid the crisis for a beautiful life, and how to prioritize educational choices to fit this difficult season.

Giving Our Children The World

Terrie Hellard Brown
Saturday, 3:00, Salon C

In this workshop we explore ways to bring culture and foreign languages into our lessons and family activities through books, neighborhood activities, and missions. Attendees receive an extensive packet with ideas for the very young up through teaching a lesson on anthropology with older children.

Curiosity Saved the Cat!

Daniel Schwabauer
Saturday, 3:00, Salon F

How to instill a love of writing—and learning—by fostering curiosity and wonder.

Making sure students know the right answers is important. But those answers should never come at the cost of a student hating to learn. The key to instilling a lifetime love of learning is harnessing your student’s natural curiosity in order to trigger wonder. Whatever it does to cats, curiosity will save a child’s mind.

Christianity & Government

Jared Dodd
Saturday, 3:15, Lobby/Courtyard

When and why did God institute government? What is the proper role of government? What is the role of the Christian in the context of civil government? When Christians are able to answer the questions correctly, freedom shortly follows. This talk explains the transforming biblical principles regarding Christianity and government.

Homeschool Legislation: Preserving Freedom for Generations

Jacklynn Walters & Jennifer Laporte
Saturday, 3:15, Salon B

The fight for homeschool freedom may seem far away in the distant past, but in reality we are only one bad law or unintended negative consequence away from having our right to homeschool eroded. While keeping our trust in God as our ultimate preserver, Jacklynn will prepare us to for faith-filled engagement in the legislative arena through education about the process, information about current policy priorities and effective communication strategies.

The Unexpected Adventure in Serving Others

Zan Tyler
Saturday, 3:15, Salon D/E

Do you want to energize your homeschool? Providing your children with creative opportunities to serve others is just what you need. In Zan’s 21 years of homeschooling, nothing amazed her more than the adventures and blessings her family encountered by serving others together. In this session, Zan Tyler will show you how to build service projects into your school days and everyday lives. She’ll also share practical service ideas. Be prepared to see your children come alive as they walk out the second most important command that God has given us by serving others in both small and big ways.



Connect and Learn

Jean Wetherilt

Saturday, 3:15, Truman (Holiday Inn)

Some of the best knowledge comes directly from moms who have been on the homeschooling journey. You might have heard someone say that parents are the "experts" in knowing their own children. We set out to tap that expertise by surveying several moms who are homeschooling their children with various challenges. This workshop will include information and tips collected from that survey, a 20-30 minute panel discussion and sharing of resources.

Chat GPT & AI: A Homeschool Grad's Perspective on How to Teach Writing

Tabitha Burt

Saturday, 3:15, Pershing (Holiday Inn)

You've heard the new buzzword everywhere the past year: ChatGPT. What is this AI writing tool? Is it something to avoid in your home education plan, or should you embrace what's becoming a "normal" tool people use to get writing done these days? Are there some situations where it's truly useful? Will your kids need it in their jobs someday? Join our speaker, Tabitha Burt, to discover ethical and engaging ways to use ChatGPT, understand the dangers of AI plagiarism, and see the shortcomings of ChatGPT. Tabitha, who recently participated in a Chat GPT symposium on the JCCC campus, was homeschooled K-12, is a current student at JCCC, loves writing, and is hoping to be an editor someday. Tabitha's family has 6 more students to graduate and is deeply appreciative of her new expertise on employing Chat GPT in the writing classroom. Don't miss this very unique topic and speaker!