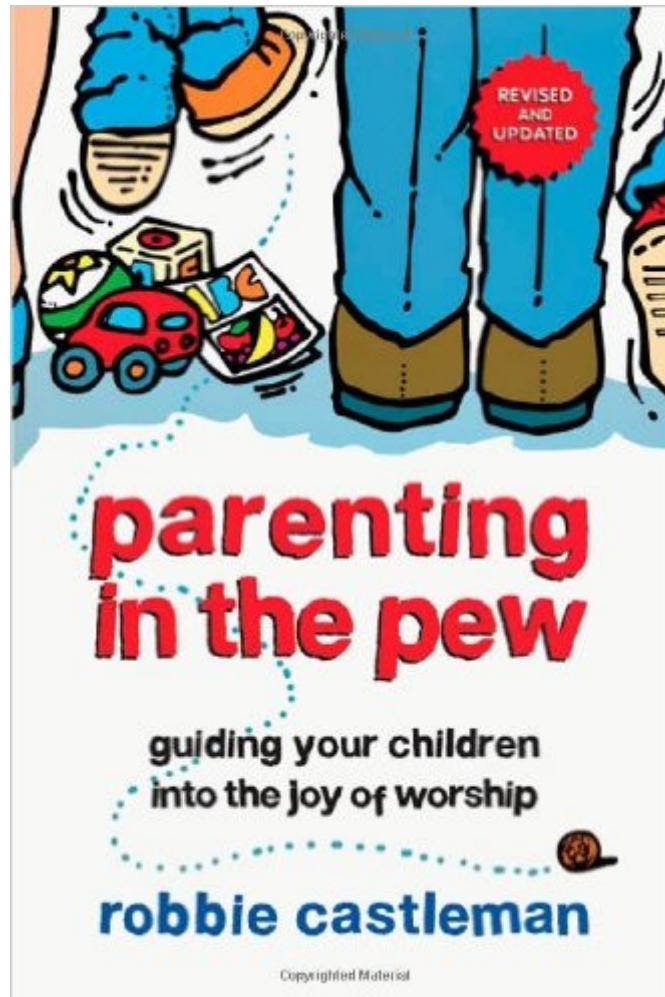


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# Parenting In The Pew: Guiding Your Children Into The Joy Of Worship



## Synopsis

"Daddy, I'd like you to meet my children." That's Robbie Castleman's attitude about taking her children to church. She believes that Sunday morning isn't a success if she has only managed to keep the kids quiet. And she knows there's more to church for kids than trying out their new coloring books. Children are at church for the same reason as their parents: for the privilege of worshiping God. Worship, Castleman writes, is "the most important thing you can ever train your child to do." So with infectious passion, nitty-gritty advice and a touch of humor, she shows you how to help your children (from toddlers to teenagers) enter into worship. In this significantly revised and updated edition Castleman includes a new preface and two new appendices that provide new perspectives on children's sermon and intergenerational community. She also provides a study guide for personal reflection or group discussion. More than ever, *Parenting in the Pew* is essential reading for parents and worship leaders who want to help children make joyful noises unto the Lord.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a frazzled father of three, I know how hard church can be. While life at home is often pandemonium in church I feel like I have to reign those kids in. At the very least keep them from kicking the pew in front of them. Author Robbie Castleman challenges us parents to enlarge our vision of what our kids can experience in church. *Parenting in the Pew: Guiding Your Children into the Joy of Worship*, now in its third edition, brings together Castleman's skill as a theologian, and her experience raising her sons in church. This is a thoughtful book which challenges readers to invest in teaching kids to worship God (not just behave themselves) and leading them to a fresh

encounter with God. Along the way Castleman shares insights, personal anecdotes and stories of how other parents have been able to 'parent in the pew.' Castleman's book begins with a plea for parents to 'pay attention' to their children, how they learn and how they can participate in worship. She argues that participation in worship is formative for children (and the rest of us). But she knows the challenge. In one witty chapter, she discusses 'Worship BC and AD,' that is, 'before children' and 'after diapers.' When we seek to enter into God's presence our children may be a distraction. If we are not careful we will end up teaching our kids to be 'quiet in church' without really teaching them the meaning of worship and failing to participate in worship ourselves. Worship is about giving God his due glory, not about our own experience. God is not the least bit bothered by our kids participating (just ask Jesus). From there Castleman explores the elements of worship and how to prepare your kids to participate.

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