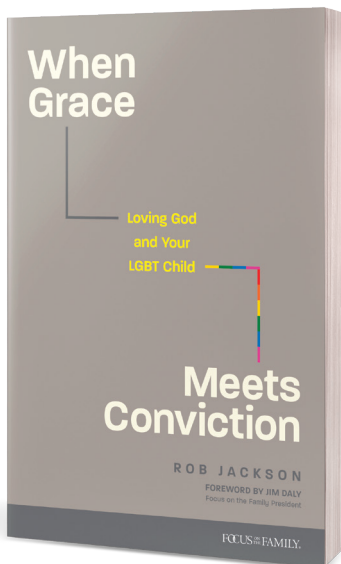


# Bonus Content

## 5 Questions Not Covered by the Book



The cultural conversations around sexuality are always evolving. Here are five new questions Rob Jackson has regularly been fielding since completing the book.



Scan to see more questions and get the book.

## **Bonus Question 1**

**My child who identified as transgender now says he made a mistake. How do I help him heal without saying, “I told you so”?**

The road back is difficult, and your quiet, respectful, steady support can make a real difference. The feelings you are carrying—however legitimate they may be—have to stay secondary to what your child needs in this critical moment. Detransition is not a simple reversal. It often comes wrapped in shame, confusion, and grief over time about social choices that may be awkward to rewind and physical choices that cannot be completely reversed. What your child needs from you in this moment is the same thing he needed when he first came out: a parent who stays present without making the moment about themselves.

This is where the “I told you so” impulse—even when it never becomes words—can do real damage. Your child already knows what you believe. What he doesn’t yet know is whether he’s safe enough to rebuild in your presence. That safety isn’t built through being right. It’s built through being steady. Walk slowly here. Ask more than you tell. And find a Christ-affirming counselor who has specific experience with detransition—because this journey has its own terrain, and you and your child deserve a guide who can walk it with you.

## **Bonus Question 2**

# **My child has cut off contact with me. How do I stay faithful to God and to my child when I have no access to them?**

Estrangement can feel like a death without a funeral. This kind of grief doesn't get the recognition death receives, and you may have little support from others. But you've lost access to the person you love most, and some days that absence is so loud that it crowds out everything else. Remember, grief doesn't resolve on a schedule or respond well to being managed.

Faithfulness in this season looks less like doing and more like remaining. You remain available without demanding access. You remain prayerful, waiting on God to do all that you can't. You remain

open to reconciliation without making your child's return the condition of your own healing. This is some of the hardest spiritual formation a parent will ever be asked to undergo—staying soft toward someone who has gone silent, staying hopeful without certainty, staying present to God when the person you most want to reach is unreachable. The parable of the prodigal's father isn't just a story about a son who came home. It's a portrait of a father who kept watching the road, hoping to see his child coming home. That watching is its own form of faithfulness.

### **Bonus Question 3**

**My grandchild identifies as LGBT, and my adult child is fully affirming. How do I stay present without losing my relationship with either of them?**

You are navigating two relationships simultaneously, and the pressure points in each one are different. With your adult child, the tension is largely theological and philosophical—you see this differently, and that difference has real implications for how your grandchild is being raised. With your grandchild, the relationship is more tender and more vulnerable—a child who senses disapproval from a grandparent feels it deeply, and the last thing you want is for your convictions to become a wall between you and a child who needs to know they are loved.

The wisest path here is to be ruthlessly clear about what you can control and what you

cannot. You cannot determine how your adult child parents. You cannot undo the framework your grandchild is being raised in. What you can do is remain a consistent, loving, Christlike, theologically grounded presence in that child's life for as long as you have access to them. That means being warm without being dishonest, being present without being passive, and trusting that a grandparent who loves well and lives faithfully plants seeds that outlast any single conversation. Simple isn't easy, but surrender what you can't change and walk by the Spirit to change what you can.

## **Bonus Question 4**

**It's been ten years since  
my child came out, and  
nothing has changed.  
How do I keep hoping  
without being destroyed  
by the waiting?**

Ten years is long enough to have grieved the same loss many times over and long enough to wonder whether hope itself has become a form of self-deception. I encourage you to remember that hope and outcome are not the same thing. If your hope is tethered entirely to a specific change in your child's life, then every year without that change will erode you. But if hope is rooted in the character of God and the long arc of His faithfulness, it can survive a decade—and more—without requiring visible evidence to sustain it.

That doesn't make the waiting easy. It doesn't make the grief smaller. What it does is give you

something solid enough to stand on when the waiting feels endless. It also invites an honest question: In ten years, has anything changed in you? Not in the sense of lowering your convictions, but in the sense of deepening your capacity to love, to remain, to hold tension without being destroyed by it. Sometimes the transformation God is working is in the parent, not the child—and that work is not wasted even when the story isn't finished. Keep watching the road. Keep tending your own soul. And don't isolate yourself—find people who can hold the hope with you when you can't hold it yourself.

## **Bonus Question 5**

**My husband and I are  
on opposite sides of how  
to respond to our child.  
How do we stay married  
and stay present?**

A child's coming out doesn't just reshape your relationship with that child; it can expose fault lines in your marriage you didn't know were there. When two parents respond differently, the child often learns to play one against the other, not out of malice but out of survival. And the parents, already stressed and grieving, find themselves fighting each other instead of facing the situation together. This is one of the most common and least talked-about dynamics in families navigating life with an LGBT-identifying child. Your marriage needs tending, not just your parenting.

The goal is not to manufacture agreement you don't have. If one of you is more theologically conservative and one is more relationally accommodating, difference won't dissolve through argument. What you're aiming for is a unified presence—a commitment to stay in the room together, to not let your child's situation become the thing that pulls you apart. That requires honest conversation between the two of you, ideally with a Christ-affirming counselor who can help you find the places where your love for your child and your love for each other can hold together. Your child needs two parents. And the two of you need each other, maybe more than you realize.