

Chapter 1



When Pancakes Meet Prayer:
Taking God at His Word



I woke up one morning, grabbed my cup of coffee, and settled back into bed to read my Bible. My nine-year-old peeked his head into my room and asked, “Mommy, can I make pancakes for breakfast? It’s the weekend.”

“Yes,” I told him. “As soon as I’m done reading.”

I finished my time with the Lord, ran out to feed our farm animals, and came back in to find my teenage daughter already in the kitchen, making a homemade pie for a lunch date we had planned with friends. Since our kitchen isn’t very large, she told her little brother he’d need to wait.

He turned to me and said, “But Mom, you told me I could make pancakes as soon as you were done with your Bible.”

Darn it—he was right.

I told my daughter she could keep baking, but she would have to share the kitchen. Thankfully, they figured it out without an argument.

Later that morning, the Lord used that tiny moment to speak to me. My son was taking me at my word. When his circumstances didn’t match what I’d promised, he brought my word back to me until things shifted into alignment.

Homeschool Declarations

That is exactly what we do when we declare God's Word.

When we pray Scripture, we're saying:

"God, this is what You have said. This is what's true. I believe this is Your heart for us. I'm asking You to move in my life and in our homeschool until our circumstances line up with Your Word."

The Only Book That's Alive

Hebrews 4:12 tells us that God's Word is living and active. It is *alive*.

Scripture isn't just ink on paper—it intervenes, cuts through, changes, rearranges, reorders, and shifts things, including our homeschool.

I love to read, but every book except the Bible is dead. Books are bound sheets of paper with words on them. They aren't *alive*. They may inspire, instruct, or entertain, but they're still just words on a page.

The Bible is different. It is literally *alive*.

When you read Scripture, something happens that cannot happen when you read any other book. When you speak it aloud, God promises it will not return empty (Isaiah 55:11). Declaring God's Word is not "positive thinking," "naming and claiming," or wishful hoping.

When Pancakes Meet Prayer: Taking God At His Word

When you speak Scripture over your homeschool, you are intentionally aligning your home, your children, your thoughts and feelings, and your daily routines with His plans and purposes. And when reality doesn't yet look like His Word, those declarations become invitations for the Holy Spirit to rearrange and realign.



Scriptures to Post on the Fridge

“For the word of God is alive and active.”

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

“So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty.”

Isaiah 55:11 (NIV)



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For Reflection and Prayer

1. When you look at your own homeschool, where do you most clearly see the gap between God's Word and your daily experience?
2. Think about a time when one of your children "held you to your word." What was that like for you? How does that picture help you understand what it looks like to hold God to His Word in prayer?
3. What emotions are stirred in you when you hear that the Bible is "living and active" and not just another book? Excitement? Skepticism? Disappointment? Hope? Be honest and bring those emotions to the Lord.
4. In what small, practical way can you create a "space" (even a few seconds) each day to speak God's Word over your homeschool?