

CHRISTUS MINISTRIES

Young Family School of the Heart

VOLUME 2 | PRESENCE

THE WHOLEHEARTED PARENTING MANIFESTO

Brene Brown

Above all else, I want you to know that you are loved and lovable. You will learn this from my words and actions - the lessons on love are in how I treat you and how I treat myself.

I want you to engage with the world from a place of worthiness. You will learn that you are worthy of love, belonging, and joy every time you see me practice self-compassion and embrace my own imperfections.

We will practice courage in our family by showing up, letting ourselves be seen, and honoring vulnerability. We will share our stories of struggle and strength. There will always be room in our home for both.

We will teach you compassion by practicing compassion with ourselves first; then with each other. We will set and respect boundaries; we will honor hard work, hope, and perseverance. Rest and play will be family values, as well as family practices.

You will learn accountability and respect by watching me make mistakes and make amends, and by watching how I ask for what I need and talk about how I feel.

I want you to know joy, so together we will practice gratitude.

I want you to feel joy, so together we will learn how to be vulnerable.

When uncertainty and scarcity visit, you will be able to draw from the spirit that is a part of our everyday life.

Together we will cry and face fear and grief. I will want to take away your pain, but instead I will sit with you and teach you how to feel it.

We will laugh and sing and dance and create. We will always have permission to be ourselves with each other. No matter what, you will always belong here.

As you begin your Wholehearted journey, the greatest gift that I can give to you is to live and love with my whole heart and to dare greatly.

I will not teach or love or show you anything perfectly, but I will let you see me, and I will always hold sacred the gift of seeing you. Truly deeply seeing you.



Listening Walk

Outdoor Activity for Kids

materials

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons

instructions

- Cut a circle from the construction paper.
- Draw four lines to create eight triangular sections.
- Write and/or draw things that you may hear outside.
- Continue until all eight spaces are full.
- Cut each line on the plate just to the inner circle to keep track of items found.
- Head out for your listening walk and fold back each tab when you hear your item.
- Enjoying listening to your neighborhood in a newfound way with your family!



PRESENCE

To truly listen from a deep presence is one of the greatest gifts we can give one another. How have I been present or not present to those in front of me lately?

