

Suggested Interview Questions for
Joshua Straub
author of *Safe House*

1. What is a *Safe House*? How would you describe this term for our audience?
2. The real premise of the book, and you say it quite often, is that it's the posture from which we parent that matters more than the techniques. Can you describe what you mean by that?
3. You write in the book that we coauthor our children's stories. That seems like a lot of responsibility. Describe for us the power of story in the parent-child relationship.
4. You use the metaphor of the physical structure of a house to the key elements we all need to create an emotionally safe environment. Describe for us the four walls of the *Safe House*.
5. You point out that each child, even those within the same family, can be very different. Why is it so vital that parents take the time to study and understand each child's unique temperament?
6. Describe for us the meaning of the phrase "*praising the struggle*." How can parents use this strategy to help their kids experience true growth in any area of their lives?
7. Talk a little about how parental agendas can distort our relationships with our kids. Would you consider the effort to pass along faith to our kids as a parental agenda? And is that necessarily wrong?
8. Discuss the balance between grace and truth in the *Safe House*. What are the traits of a home ruled entirely by grace? Alternatively, a home ruled by truth? What are some practical steps parents can take to find a balance between the two?



9. What do you say to that parent who feels as if they are constantly making the same mistakes their parents did? How can those parents begin to parent from a different posture?
10. What are some practical ways to build grace in your daily life as a parent?
11. What are three primary pathways we use to parent our children?
12. Describe the difference between punishment and discipline. What role does it play in shaping a healthy relationship between parent and child?
13. Give us a few practical discipline strategies in a Safe House.
14. What impact did writing this book have on your own life as a parent? What changes have you experienced with the way you interact with your children?
15. Where can we learn more about your work and *Safe House*?