

IS MOTHERHOOD MAKING A COMEBACK?

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released data which revealed 5.4 million mothers put work on hold to stay home with their children (as reported in *USA Today*). Though this triggers a significant drop in income, women are making the sacrifice, demonstrating both their desire and commitment to create a home that is a safe place for a family to blossom. Jill Savage, mother of five, understands the challenges women face as they strive to meet the multi-faceted needs of their unique families. Central to this goal, she believes, is a proper understanding of the many roles home plays in our lives. Sharing the principles to raising a strong, loving family that is firmly grounded in faith, she offers practical ideas and motivation for experiencing the home as:

- ✦ **A safe house, where all are respected and protected**
- ✦ **A trauma unit, where a family finds hope, healing, and encouragement**
- ✦ **A church, where kids find an authentic example of a life of prayer and faith**
- ✦ **A pep rally, where accomplishments, dreams, and individuality are celebrated**
- ✦ **A hospitality house, where others are welcomed with an open heart**

Encouraging women to view motherhood as a profession and a valid career choice, Savage urges mothers to pursue their mission at home with as much intentionality as they would any other career. She motivates us to discover the many different roles home plays in our lives, and shares strategies, tips, and guidance for creating a functional, secure home environment that enables children to thrive and grow spiritually.

“Home is central to understanding who we are, who we belong to, and what we stand for. It is hope, promise, and love. It’s about our connection to the people who live with us.”

Drawing on wisdom from her own experiences and from conversations with other moms, Savage offers advice for enjoying the role of mother and making the most of everyday tasks and family time. She shares fun, practical ideas for everything from surviving road trips to passing on your family heritage. Savage also emphasizes the importance of the marriage relationship as the center of the home with mom and dad as managing partners.



Jill Savage is an inspirational author, speaker, and the founder and executive director of Hearts at Home, an

international outreach ministry that equips women with practical tools for prioritizing marriage, homemaking, and family relationships.

Savage has authored several books on the topic of motherhood, including *Professionalizing Motherhood*, *Is There Really Sex After Kids?* (Zondervan), and *Got Teens?* (Harvest House), which she coauthored with Pam Farrel. She is a regular columnist for Hearts at Home publications and has been a freelance columnist for *The Pantagraph* newspaper in central Illinois since 1997.

A sought-after media guest, Savage was featured on the cover of *Today's Christian Woman* magazine and has been interviewed on many national radio and television programs produced by FamilyLife Today, Focus on the Family, Moody Broadcasting, Total Living Network, FamilyNet, and LeSea Broadcasting.

Media Personnel:

To request a free review copy or to schedule an interview, please call—Radio Publicist Jeana Newman, 888-501-8208; or Print/Internet Publicist Dave Bartlett, 877-307-0662.

Bio Sketch

JILL SAVAGE

Jill Savage is a dedicated wife and mother who also encourages women in the profession of motherhood as an inspirational author and speaker. She is the founder and executive director of Hearts at Home, an international outreach ministry that equips women with practical tools needed to prioritize marriage, homemaking, and family relationships.

Through this unique, primarily volunteer-run organization, Savage and approximately 170 women provide resources to moms through a magazine, website, books, merchandise, and referrals to other information sources. Savage is a regular columnist for Hearts at Home publications and has been a freelance columnist for *The Pantagraph* newspaper in central Illinois since 1997. A stay-at-home mom for 20 years, she has written articles for *Marriage Partnership*, *Focus on the Family*, *Crosswalk.com* and *Homebodies.com*. She has authored several books, including *Professionalizing Motherhood*, *Is There Really Sex After Kids?*, *Creating the Moms Group You've Been Looking For* (Zondervan), and *Got Teens?* (Harvest House), which she coauthored with Pam Farrel.

Her newest book, *My Heart's at Home*, serves as a blueprint for moms in building a relationally healthy family. By exploring all the roles home plays in our lives, Savage provides vision and strategy for making home all that it can be. She calls moms to intentionality in their everyday interactions with their family. In the pages of this book, a mother will discover fresh vision to keep her focused for the long haul of parenting and encouragement to keep going everyday. She will find perspective that will reframe her understanding of home and empower her to make a home for her family in more ways than she may have ever considered.

With her honest, practical, and humorous storytelling style, Savage speaks at a variety of moms groups and events throughout the year, including the Hearts at Home national conference, which draws more than 6,000 women. This high-energy weekend event encourages, educates, equips, and entertains moms through a program of respected speakers, musical guests, practical workshops, and resource-filled exhibits.

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Jill and her husband, Mark, live in Illinois. They are parents of five children, including one who is adopted. In addition to enjoying her role as a wife and mother, Savage holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music Education from Butler University. She taught piano and voice privately for 15 years and continues to use these skills by helping with school musicals and serving as a worship leader at her church.



*My Heart's
at Home*

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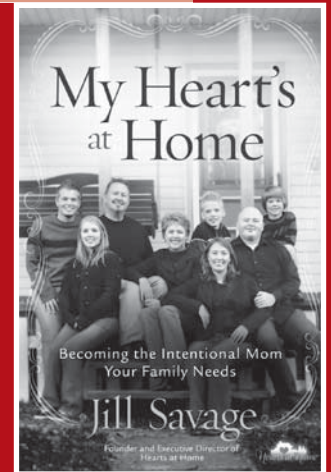
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Interview Questions



for Jill Savage, author of *My Heart's at Home*

- ◇ What does it mean to have your heart at home, and how did the concept for this book come out of your own journey as a mother?
- ◇ You liken building a family to building a home. How are the two related?
- ◇ You share 12 roles that home plays in our lives. Can you highlight some of those roles and explain why they are important?
- ◇ None of us are perfect parents. Which one of these roles is the most challenging for you?
- ◇ When you discuss the role of home as a rest area, you stress the importance of family night and the family meal. Why do you feel those are so vital, and how can a busy family make them happen?
- ◇ You share the concept of a physical margin. What does this mean, and why is it important in a moms life?
- ◇ Will you tell us specifically about the role a mom plays in building a family?
- ◇ You talk about motherhood as a profession. What exactly do you mean by that?
- ◇ What about the role of dad? How can dads be more intentional about what they do at home?
- ◇ Discussing marriage, you talk about mom and dad as managing partners in the home. Can you share some practical tips on keeping marriage a priority in the midst of raising a family?
- ◇ This book is a Hearts at Home resource. Hearts at Home is an organization you founded 14 years ago. Tell us why you started Hearts at Home and what it offers moms today.
- ◇ Are there any last words of encouragement or wisdom you would like to offer parents who desire to create this type of intentional home for their family?



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