

Q&A

AUTHOR INTERVIEW



Kristine Steakley is a freelance writer and grant-writing consultant living in northern Virginia. She is a graduate of Messiah College in Grantham, Pennsylvania, and worked for more than a decade at Prison Fellowship Ministries. She blogs for The Point and also at *Child of Divorce, Child of God*.

"A tender exploration of the hardships and comforts a growing child of divorce finds in a life of faith. Steakley's story will be familiar to anyone who, despite the broken family dreams of the past, has sought to find wholeness in the Christian faith."

--Elizabeth Marquardt, author of *Between Two Worlds: The Inner Lives of Children of Divorce*


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How did you come to write this book?

Kristine: I began writing *Child of Divorce, Child of God* after helping to lead a Sunday School class for children whose parents were divorced or divorcing, and seeing how little biblically-based material was available to help children and adults who had experienced the heartbreak of their parents' divorce.

How big of an emotional and spiritual issue is divorce among Christians?

Kristine: As many as 1/3 of Christian marriages will end in divorce. For the children of those unions, the divorce of their parents is a devastating and lingering pain. My hope is that readers will find peace and joy in the hope offered by the knowledge that God knows our pain and has a plan to redeem it and us. As followers of Jesus Christ, we have a sure source of hope and healing in the faithful, loving and just character of our God.

What kinds of issues do children of divorce struggle with, and how does your book address those?

Kristine: Whether their parents divorced when they were children or adults, children of divorce struggle with issues ranging from sadness and fear to discouragement and despair. God's character, as revealed in Scripture, provides a sure path to healing and a gracious promise of hope for the child of divorce.

What main points do you want readers to take away from your book?

Kristine:

I have four main take-aways in the book:

- 1.) Having divorced parents creates a lingering wound, whether the divorce happened when the child was very young or already an adult or some age in-between.
- 2.) The only real source of hope and healing for this wound is found in the character of God and in the person of Jesus Christ.
- 3.) God knows our pain and has a plan to redeem it and us.
- 4.) We are not defined by our parents' divorce or doomed to repeat their mistakes. Although we are children of divorce, God calls us his very own children.

<http://www.childofdivorce-childofgod.blogspot.com>

Media Contact | For more information and to schedule an interview with our featured author contact: Krista Carnet, broadcast publicity, at 800.843.4587 ext. 4013 or kkcarnet@ivpress.com
Heather Mascarello, print publicity, at 800.843.4587 ext. 4012 or hmascarello@ivpress.com
Adrianna Wright, online publicity, at 800.843.4587 ext. 4096 or awright@ivpress.com
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