

## WFWP USA's Peace Begins with ME webinar: From a Mother's Heart

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WFWP members caught up with 2019 National Parents of the Year winner Alisa Ellis on June 25th, 2020, in a webinar entitled "Peace Begins with ME" as part of a regular monthly series offered by WFWP USA. Alisa, a mother of seven and education advocate, shared from the heart how she and her family keep hope and positivity alive during tumultuous times. The most vital thing is to know who you are and what you believe in.

"As turmoil rises, there is a blurred line between right and wrong. We each have the power within us to partner with God and be the change and the peace that the world needs." With these words, Alisa empowered all of us to reflect how we can promote peace in our own lives.

Alisa then shared an inspiring hymn from her faith, as well as beautiful artwork and poetry created by her daughter during the lockdown. This proud and caring mother stressed the need for parents to be fully involved in their children's education, so children can have the best possible beginning for their future endeavors, rooted in parents' love:

"At one point in history, it was very well known that the family was the central unit of society. As time has gone on, we as individuals and families have stopped taking the helm. We have started giving our responsibility away to others. We are sacrificing our most precious commodity, and that's our family, our home."

We also heard amazing stories of Alisa's time campaigning for her state's Board of Education. She took away from her time with the board in Utah not only the importance of parents' input, but an understanding that there truly is more that connects us with each other than divides us. When we trust in God and work together, we can make the world a more hopeful and peaceful place.

Comments from participants:

"I understand that God can tell us to listen, and that can be more powerful than speaking out! This time seems to be urging peace and stillness. I really appreciate [the] point about God being the Parent of us all."

"Thank you for allowing yourself to be vulnerable."