Work it Out... Homeschool Styles and Set up

How to get the most out of this worksheet...

- Take time to watch the corresponding video first. Grab a journal or open a fresh online document and start working these questions out. These worksheets are not editable by design—rather, they give you a little room for brainstorming before you take to really working out your vision and dreams for your family.
- Really take time to think through the questions here and thoughtfully answer each one.
 The questions are here to help you think through things that you may not have taken the time to truly consider before, and you'll be amazed at how much clarity you'll get just by stopping to write down what's in your heart for your children

Set up your homeschool with relationships in mind. As you get to know your children better in this academic context, you'll be able to tailor the way you teach them to the way they learn best, and that will eliminate some friction in your relationship with your child and break down barriers that may keep him or her from learning well and accomplishing the tasks at hand.

Before you start writing, let's review some of the important points from this lesson:

- When you first start out, set up your homeschool based on mom's natural bent (or dad's, if
 he will be the primary teacher.) Why, you ask? That's because whoever is leading the
 daily homeschool activities during that first year really needs to be completely at ease
 and fully invested in what you're doing... (and I promise your children will react better to it
 that way.)
- Generally-speaking, we talk about 6 primary teaching styles in homeschooling:
 Traditional, Classical, Charlotte Mason, Unit Studies, Montessori, and Unschooling. I am giving you some great additional information and workshops in the resources for this lesson if you want to learn more about those specific styles.
- As you study these homeschool teaching styles, though, always remember your mission. Which of these do you think will allow you to pursue the hearts of your children in the most natural way? Which excites you as a parent, so you can imagine it exciting your kiddos as well? Which makes you most comfortable?
- Learning is contagious— and once you start you don't want to stop learning new things.
- As you gain a better understanding of how your child learns, you can start to approach
 your days and the way you are presenting the material based on that.
- In a classroom environment, there is not the flexibility to make adjustments to curriculum and approach to suit the individual needs of your children, BUT because you are their mom, and you love them deeply, pray for them daily, and desire God's best for them always— you will be able to get to know them on a level you never imagined possible and teach them to their natural strengths while still coaching them on how to overcome their weaknesses with the goal of doing all to God's glory, whether it comes easily or not. **HOW**

COOL IS THAT??

Take a few minutes and write what you know about each of your children in relation to how they learn... How do you think they will learn best? What do you think they will like most about the schooling? What do you think will be the biggest struggle for them? What do you feel are still big unknowns? Perhaps you'll want to set this list aside and revisit it often through the year to see if your answers have changed any.

What areas have you already found your children starting to excel or express a lot of interest in? How can you spend some time looking more deeply into those things they really love? Deep diving into things that really interest them goes a long way into sparking a love of learning.

What homeschool styles intrigue the most? Would you feel comfortable mixing and matching styles and curriculum, or do you feel more comfortable using 1 provider for everything? What is your vision for how your teaching will look in the days ahead? Spend some time brainstorming and get excited!! This is going to be fun!!

As a homeschool parent on the mission of homeschooling for your children's hearts and building strong, discipleship-focused relationships with them, you'll have the time to get to know them deeply. You'll be able to make them feel so confident in your love for them that you can avoid many of the insecurities that drive crazy behaviors in adolescents, because they'll know they are secure in Christ and in your family— and you'll be able to teach them to understand how they fit and what they can bring to this world.