



# A Love That Multiplies: An Up-Close View of How They Make it Work

*Michelle Duggar , Jim Bob Duggar*

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**A Love That Multiplies: An Up-Close View of How They Make it Work** Michelle Duggar , Jim Bob Duggar

In this second book from the Duggars, they focus on the principles that equip them to face life's challenges—drawing from their most recent challenge with the 3-month premature birth of their newest child, Josie. They also share the new challenges their older children are facing as they prepare for adult life. Central to the book is a section on the principles that the Duggars have consistently taught their children. These simply worded principles are basic to the Duggar family and are shared in a way that other parents can incorporate in their own homes. A special chapter on homeschooling gives valuable information to parents who are considering this route or are already invested in it. The world continues to be amazed by their nineteen well-groomed, well-behaved, well-schooled children and their home life, which focuses on family, financial responsibility, fun—and most importantly, faith. The Duggars show how parents can succeed whether they're rearing a single child or several.

## A Love That Multiplies: An Up-Close View of How They Make it Work Details

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## From Reader Review A Love That Multiplies: An Up-Close View of How They Make it Work for online ebook

### Crystal Starr Light says

By covering up "teenaged mistakes".

Review: The Duggars have always bothered me with their "the older kids help raise the younger kids" thing. What a way to grow up - always taking care of a younger sibling! That sounds like a great childhood, don't cha think???

But now that it's been revealed that Josh sexually molested FIVE girls including FOUR of HIS OWN SISTERS, I wouldn't read this book were it the last book on earth. I'd be afraid to use it for firewood, given it would probably eat me instead.

How AWFUL to outright LIE on TV to millions of people - pretending your family is oh, so much more wholesome than yours while you are hiding a child molester in your closet!!

The rest of this space will be used to keep track of the Duggar activity and links I've come across.

I first heard about it from Libby Anne herself. The bottom of that article, she lists several other links to other blogs, talking about the Josh Duggar case. She more recently linked to a video that kinda recaps what happened and talks about the hypocrisy of this family. (How about deal with the child molester in your family before you start policing everyone else??)

InTouch Weekly first released the news about a week ago.

It took awhile, but TLC has suspended the show and financiers are dropping out rapidly. However, there is talk that the show will "go on", minus Josh himself.

Personally, I think that's a TERRIBLE precedence to set, but what do I know? I also think that hiding a child molester while pretending to be the cleanest, most pure family on the planet is a terrible thing.

Link 1

Link 2

Link 3

Link 4

This should NOT be quiet - we need to keep talking about this and letting them know this is NOT acceptable behavior. At least FIVE children have lived over a dozen years with untreated abuse. While Josh Duggar is apologizing for his "teenaged mistakes", let us NOT forget the real victims here!!

**UPDATE:** It gets worse

**UPDATE:** Last night, Megyn Kelly of Fox News interviewed Jim Bob and Michelle. Not surprising, they minimized Josh's offense ("the girls were asleep and didn't know until we told them!") and outright lied in

some places.

By this thought process, date rape isn't really rape because she didn't know about it! If someone breaks into my apartment and steals while I'm sleeping, well, it's not stealing because I didn't know about it!

There are FIVE GIRLS who have been violated, untreated, but it's OK because Josh cried and said he was sorry. NOPE.

**UPDATE:** Jessa and Jill are two of the victims. They are supposed to have an interview, but early remarks from Jessa indicate that she still supports her brother. I'm not really surprised, given the environment they live in. She HAS to support him, or else make homeschooling, the Quiverfull movement, and this form of Christianity look bad.

I know, I lived it.

**UPDATE:** So, apparently 911 was called for one of the kids, but the Arkansas Department of Human Services was denied access to the child in question. I'm not surprised; homeschooled kids are drilled to fear the CPS. From 3rd grade until high school, the only time we ever left the house during the school day was for grocery shopping, and we were drilled in what to say should anyone ask any questions and never really left my mother's side while we were doing it.

**UPDATE:** IT'S ABOUT FREAKING TIME!!!

**UPDATE:** More good old fashioned hyposcrisy!

**UPDATED:** The drama continues! Danica Dillon, the porn star Josh Duggar paid to have sex with, is suing Josh Duggar for sexual assault. BTW, I don't care for how the Jezebel article headlines this: "Josh Duggar Sued for Allegedly Assaulting Woman During Sex"? (No link because that's just awful.) On a FEMINIST SITE that frequently broaches the topic of rape (calling out advertisements for date rape or highlighting women who are trying to get the police to test their rape kits were two such articles I found), we are now going to make exceptions to Danica, a porn star, because, I dunno, women in erotic fields don't deserve to be treated with respect?! Daily Mail also uses the verbiage "claims" in their article, but somehow it doesn't come across as offensive as the Jezebel headline.

**UPDATE:** I shouldn't even link this, but I feel a call to remark on how coincidental it is this came out today, right around the time of the previous link. So Yahoo! News, instead of focusing on Josh Duggar's sexual assault of Danica or his younger sisters publishes an article about how Anna is letting her 4-month old daughter wear pants, thereby hitting a world record of youngest female sexualized in the media as a bunch of Anna's Instagram followers fall all over themselves to debate whether it's modest FOR A FREAKING BABY to wear pants. Yes, it's a great example of the family's continuous hypocrisy, but I foresee it's one of those things that could take away attention from the real problem: Josh Duggar is an awful human being, who has done awful things to his sisters and other women and who needs serious help!! Let's keep the conversation on him, not on frivolous non-issues like whether his female child wears pants.

**UPDATE:** Having family problems? Babies make everything better! Poor Anna is never going to leave this loser and is content to be pregnant for the rest of her life, bringing in more children to this already overpopulated world with millions of children living in starvation, poverty, and war. But where are the proliferers protecting those children?!

**UPDATE:** He's back!!!! And this time, he's joining his sisters in suing the police and InTouch for publishing the fact he molested 4 girls. Because his poor widdle white boy persecution complex is more important than the sexual assault of his sisters. YAY! Don't you love this MORAL and CHRISTIAN family?!

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### **Sara says**

I got a lot of great homeschooling ideas from this book. I love how they teach their children about character. I've had success in my own home with some of the ideas that the Duggars have in this book. It's an easy read and easy to flip through to find what you want.

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### **Sarah says**

Am I a little embarrassed to admit that I just read this book? Yes, but I'm fessing up to it anyways. Since I am now well aware that the Duggars do not surf the web lest it "destroy souls with instant, unlimited access to all sorts of immorality" I feel safe to proceed with my review.

Just to be clear, I think this family is crazy, yet I'm strangely drawn to their tv show. I think it's my pure fascination as to why someone would want to have that many kids, and how they maintain any semblance of order in what must be the most chaotic house on the planet. I got the impression that the first book was probably more of a how it all works type of deal. I think the sole purpose of this book may have been to convert people and bring them over to the dark side of perpetual breeding.

This book is super preachy, but that was kind of to be expected. I'm getting better at overlooking these kind of things especially when some of it is laugh out loud hilarious. Like the analogy that Jim Bob uses to encourage the kids to remain "pure" for their future spouses. Comparing pre marital sex to a neighbourhood boy stealing your new bicycle that your parents were going to surprise you with and "stunt-driving it up and down the back alley" is just too much. "I'm sure you would still be grateful for the bike and you would have fun riding it, but..." Seriously, you can't make this stuff up!

I guess to each their own and I have to give credit where credit is due. The kids are obviously loved and seem to be well taken care of. You see me with 19 kids and you will also simultaneously see a 60 of Jack Daniel's in one hand and a fist full of Valium in the other and ain't nobody getting taken care of. Michelle Duggar has made it onto my fantasy dinner party list. If not only to see what makes her tick, but to force feed this poor woman a glass bottle or two of wine.

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### **JeniReadABook says**

I know I torture myself by reading this shit, but I can't seem to help myself. Lol. I do have to say that this book was a little less disgusting than the last book, but I'm sure the book about courtship that the daughters wrote will more than make up for this ones palatability. Lol

I read the book then watched the seasons that corresponded with it and I have to say one thing really stuck out more than anything....I think that Michelle definitely loves Josie more than her other kids. In fact, she pretty much turned her entire families life upside down because of her favoritism. She dumped the running of the household onto her older girls shoulders completely and also insisted the entire family relocate to

Little Rock. Let's face it, she didn't want to be away from her husband so she made a difficult situation even worse by her own selfishness.

She already sort of stole the children's childhoods away (the older ones cook, clean, babysit constantly while none of them are allowed to be anything other than "cheerfully" obedient) before Josie ever entered the picture. After Josie was born early the entire focus of the family shifted to that one little girl. Michelle dotes on her (which would be just fine if she were the only child, but it's totally unfair to the other children in this situation), making her needs come above every other family members. Those poor kids already get a shit deal by having to share their parents amongst so many siblings, but this is just preposterous that now the only child getting their parents undivided attention is Josie. And since Michelle has already had a miscarriage following her birth, I'm betting Miss Josie stays the baby of the family, and will probably always be treated like a little princess (again not a bad thing for a kid to get all that attention, if they were an only child it would be awesome) while the other kiddos remain second class citizens at the whim of a nutcase mom who forces the rest of the family to conform to her latest whims.

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## **Roger Hicks says**

What can I say about the Duggars? Seeing their family on TV was a factor (one of many) that led my wife and I to the belief of allowing God to control how many children we had (seven so far, for the curious). For a long time that was how I thought of them: They trusted God with their fertility and it all seemed to work out well for them. We share many (though not all) conservative Christian beliefs with them, so they were a nice family on TV we could relate to.

Since reading their first book (review here: <http://family.bob-space.com/2009/06/d...>) my opinion of them has changed greatly. I've really developed a deep respect and admiration for this large family that strives to glorify God in everything they do and makes demonstrating God's love to others their priority. To the Duggars faith isn't about attending church religiously and putting a fish bumper-sticker on your car - it's lived out in every aspect of their lives. While their critics can bash them over "family planning" choices or conservative beliefs they can't (honestly anyway) accuse them of being stereotypical "right-wing christian hate-mongers" because they make their lives about showing respect and kindness to others - even their critics.

This second book is full of the details behind what makes their home happy and their lives joyful as seen on the TV show. Non-Christians may be turned off by the constant references to their faith, but that's really what it's all about. Their faith is what makes their family work, and it's what allows them to cheerfully live every day in a way that would make most people go insane within 15 minutes.

This book does get into some of the nitty-gritty behind how (and why) they make the decisions they make - and the results of those decisions. It also details the major events last few years of their life (a tumultuous time) and how they dealt with each situation that arose. Repeatedly they demonstrate that trusting God isn't just front to impress Christian friends, but a pattern of life (and I would suggest the only viable pattern of life that leads to true contentment).

This book is well worth the read (even if you don't subscribe to the Duggar's beliefs) simply as an example of how life can be lived to the fullest. I recommend it so highly I'm giving away copies of it on my blog - click through for a chance to get one: <http://family.bob-space.com/2011/07/l...>

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### **Kristen says**

I love the Duggar's. I love to read about the way they are raising their remarkable family with the goal of deliberate discipleship and a ministry mindset. They are genuinely good people. I was especially appreciative to read all the practical advice and encouragement from Michelle on raising children with joy. I have taken some of her advice on conflict resolution in the home, and her method has worked out very well for my young family. It was so endearing to read about how Michelle overcame her quick temper and learned, through God, how to "talk sweet" to her children. The character trait definition chart they use as a family fascinates me and I want to start using her methods for character building with my own children. I also love their mentality of teaching their children how to sustain themselves, how to provide for their own needs. I left, wanting to know more about how they live so frugally in this day and age, and I will definitely be going on to explore the many online resources they cited in their book. It is such a rare thing today to get a fresh perspective on raising big families. As a mother of four, I appreciate that perspective and I thank Michelle and Jim Bob for their authentic voice in a troubled world. This really was more than a memoir: it is a valuable parenting resource that I will likely turn to again and again.

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### **Pamela(AllHoney) says**

I found this at the library and decided to check it out. I don't watch the TLC show but I've caught parts of it while surfing the channels and I admit to a weird curiosity. Also they live here in Arkansas too. Though we are in totally different parts of the state. Growing up I didn't want to be a doctor or lawyer or even an actress or singer. I wanted to be a mom. Fate chose differently for me, however. I actually enjoyed reading their beliefs and philosophies in raising their family. I think I should have read their first book though. Several times they referenced back to it. This book seem to concentrate more on the birth of their 19th child, Josie, and the struggles they had.

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### **Katie says**

This book is a wonderful resource for tools on how to make a big family work. I gleaned so many inspiring parenting concepts as well as homeschooling ideas from this book. They are great examples of how to truly appreciate your children, love them, teach them (especially through biblical teachings) and all around just raise 'em the right way- which is getting increasingly more difficult in today's world! I love the Duggars!

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### **Stephanie says**

Admittedly, the first third of the book had me in tears. Most of the beginning of Michelle and Jim Bob's second book deals with the scary circumstances surrounding Josie's birth and the difficulties of a preemie in the following months. My situation wasn't the same, but my husband and I lost our first baby boy at 26 weeks, and the Duggars' story reminded me of that frightening time in my own life.

Even if you've watched only one episode of the Duggars, you will quickly realize that their convictions are not popular. Jim Bob, Michelle, and their children are very open and forthright about their strong biblical standards. In A Love That Multiplies, they tell the reader over and over again that they believe children are a precious gift from the Lord.

Early in their marriage, Jim Bob and Michelle gave God complete control over how many children they would have, and they have never wavered from that decision, despite nasty and ignorant comments from the outside world.

Throughout the entire book, I was impressed with the Duggars' strong faith in God's Word. Everything they do, from babies to school to work revolves around the Bible. For example, the children memorize a passage from Matthew 18, which gives the biblical steps for conflict resolution. As they memorize, they incorporate what they've learned into everyday life. Squabbles with sisters and brothers are to be resolved biblically.

My two favorite parts in the book were both written by Michelle. When watching the TV show, I continually wondered how she can be so calm and quiet. Even her niece remarked in one show, I've never heard her yell!

Well, Michelle enlightens us in the book! Apparently she used to raise her voice and lose her temper! However, during a school study on anger, one of the Bible verses she was reading to the children stood out to her – Proverbs 15:1, 'A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger' – and she was so convicted of her wrong behavior! She immediately asked the children to forgive her and asked the Lord to help her control her tongue.

Michelle says the Lord immediately tested her with a can of pineapple.

You'll have to read the story yourself!

But, I was so encouraged to see that she has struggled with anger, yet with the Lord's help has worked on having a calmer, kinder tone with her children.

I was also glad to read that Michelle felt overwhelmed with the responsibility of homeschooling. Her teachable spirit is obvious and such an encouragement to other moms, as she appears so organized and unflappable, but is truly human like each of us!

Many can admire this 'and-counting' family in a well-good-for-them-but-not-for-me kind of way, but true biblical faith is hard for the lost world to understand. I believe the Duggars faith and conviction can be boiled down to Matthew 6:33, 'But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.' If you put the Lord first in all you do, EVERYthing will fall into place.

As a Biblicist Baptist, I don't agree with several of their associations (Bill Gothard is one), but I truly admire the family's strong conservative stand overall. I really enjoyed learning more about what makes the Duggars tick. Several things were quickly mentioned that they covered in more detail in their first book, *The Duggars: 20 and Counting!* I think I'll have to check that out soon!

If you're curious about that how-many-kids?! family, *A Love That Multiplies* is a fascinating (and recommended!) look into the Duggars' crazy life – or 'serene chaos,' as Michelle says! You'll read about Jinger's stolen diary (!!!), the popcorn round of Memory Lane, Josh's rock business, abstinence principles they follow after childbirth, as well as delicious recipes, helpful household tips, pictures of the family, and so much more!

\*I received a free review copy in exchange for an honest review. No other compensation was given, and all thoughts are 100% mine.\*

## Erin says

So much to say.

I hate-watch two families, the Duggars and the Kardashians. Not all the time (and I'm pro-Bruce right now) and not routinely, but I dislike but families so much that I'm absolutely fascinated by them. I realize that some of you may think I'm an awful person, and I'm OK with that.

So, I read the first Duggar book and then a friend gave me a copy of this one that she found for a dime at a thrift store. And I started reading it on May 7, just a few pages at a time.

Then, when I was on page 99, something truly surprising happened - the Josh Duggar molestation scandal came to light. Now, understand, like many I always assumed that with twenty-one Duggars (now extending to in-laws and grandchildren), SOMETHING was going to happen to bring them down.....one would break away and become an anti-fundamentalist speaker, one would get a DUI, something.

But this.

I NEVER could have imagined something like this.

And it was only for one second that I felt something like glee before I realized that there were five girls who had been violated by Josh Duggar, and then violated again by the fact that the Duggar parents and those they spoke with did nothing. It's also clear that at least some of the victims are his sisters and they have been forced to live with him, smiling, cheery and as if all was fine. This is beyond disgusting. I feel like I have to say that.

Now, so that I meet the Goodreads terms of service, my review of the book is one star for several reasons - first, but for the chapters about the birth and recovery of Josie, it's mostly a reread of the first book, even down to the use of some of the same phrases. Clearly it was just an effort to capitalize on the interest surrounding Josie.

Oh, but everything after page 99 was just fraught with irony. Even the subtitle "An Up-Close View of How They Make It Work." Ugh. And, God help us all, the chapter on sexual intimacy with one's spouse. I just can't.

Then passages like "we explain to our children the importance of maintaining a clear conscience with God and others....we encourage our children to share with us their mistakes and temptations as well as their troubling thoughts and feelings. We tell them if they've done something wrong (or a whole bunch of things) they need to confess it to God to be free from the guilt that will otherwise make them miserable. We pray together with the child, asking God to wipe the slate clean and thanking Him for the wonderful gift of forgiveness. *Then they go to the person they have offended, if that kind of mistake is what's being confessed, and ask for forgiveness.*" (236) As much as I would like to believe someone from Fox News is going to ask good ole Jim Bob and Michelle about this, I don't see it happening.

And there are about ten more passages like this that I marked post page 99. This book was published in 2011, so not only had the original events occurred, the Oprah show had already tipped off authorities who had investigated. Did they really think that this would never come out? Were Jim Bob and Michelle so willing to sacrifice their children for money?

I never felt guilt about my hate-watching, BTW.

### **Annemarie Donahue says**

I just can't wrap my head around this. My grandmother had 16 children (no multiple births) but it wasn't to replenish, my grandparents were just old school Catholics who evidently really liked sex. More power to you.

But I was DEEPLY offended by the comparison to a bicycle. I was not aware that women were property and should be handled that way. Yeah, I'm reading this a little too literally, but then maybe I'm really not. I mean, "don't let anyone else ride your bike" it's like finger nails on a chalk board. I can't have these people at my fantasy dinner party, Hemingway would murder them and Wilde would make them cry.

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### **Teena says**

Loved the book for the great organizational tips, parenting and financial advice. I couldn't help getting a bit annoyed when the subject of "defrauding" came up. I disagree that it's up to a woman to dress herself in a way that doesn't "stir up urges" in men. I feel that men and women both should be responsible for their own sexual thoughts. If the Duggars are so concerned, perhaps a Burka is in order? Otherwise, I respect the family and their beliefs.

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### **Alicia Willis says**

What a wonderful, transparent view into the Duggar's life! I have met Michelle and she is a beautiful woman, inside and out. This glimpse into their life as a family was very inspiring. I, for one, look up to Michelle as a role model and hope imitate her (while striving to imitate Christ first) when I become a wife and mother.

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### **Catherine J. says**

Stupid and insipid. I didn't think it was possible to dislike these people more (and why not, really? They certainly judge me and others like me enough. Why should I be nice to/about them?).

Really, Michelle, stop emphasising your definition of marriage. We get it. You hate the gays. I'm sure your sister is thrilled to hear it.

Are you trying to recoup all the money you've wasted on your fundie cult throughout the years by publishing this crap? That's about the only reason I can think of that you would write these books. You need to "minister" (brainwash, indoctrinate) people into joining ATI. The only way a cult stays fresh, after all, is if you indoctrinate new members and call it "religion" and "following the bible."

Two down, one to go.

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## **Kara Dalton-Werner says**

I feel trying to portay their "micro-preemie's" stay in the NICU as almost a footnote in a tale of a trying year- was sanctimonious and condescending to parents who have had preemies. I don't doubt that the Duggar's tried to keep their trademark sunny-dispositions but would it betray their experience or negate their faith in God to admit those touch-n-go moments were dark and frightening perhaps not appropriate to be juxtaposed by a recipe on the opposite page?

The Duggar's story is interesting without sprinkling sugar on everything. I certainly am not one who watches the Duggar's unfold hoping they're secretly sordid and evil. I just cannot for a second believe that a mother who has her baby trapped in an incubator because the baby's skin has not yet even formed enough that it can be touched- is quipping about how her family is renting the house of a birth control advocate.

People look up to the Duggar's. They do their fans a disservice by withholding the complexities of their emotions and experience.

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