

PARENTING: FROM SURVIVING TO THRIVING
AFFIRMING AND ENCOURAGING WORDS TO PARENTS
LUKE 15:11-24



The Heart of the Matter

In Jesus's parable of the prodigal son, we see a very involved parent who refuses to control or squelch his sons, instead granting them as much freedom as possible to learn and grow. This father desires godly maturity and offers his influence, but he patiently waits for the Lord to change his children. Furthermore, and perhaps most important to all, his love is steeped in grace. All parents would do well to emulate this example of a godly father. He is, after all, patterned after our heavenly Father.



Discovering the Way

1. Affirming Comments in Honor of Great Parents

On behalf of your children who have never used the word—and probably never will—you are their hero.

2. A Dad Who Did It Right (Luke 15:11–24)

What our children remember is not so much the words we use or the actions we take, but the atmosphere we create with our attitude.



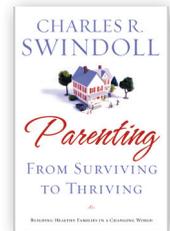
Starting Your Journey

To make your study practical, answer these three questions.

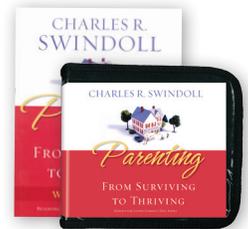
1. Do you have parents you need to thank? Thank them.
2. Do you have sons or daughters you need to release? Release them.
3. Do you have prodigals who need forgiveness and restoration? Forgive and restore them.



Tools for Digging Deeper



Parenting: From Surviving to Thriving
by Charles R. Swindoll
softcover book



Parenting: From Surviving to Thriving
by Charles R. Swindoll
softcover workbook and CD series



Top Temptations Fathers Face
by Charles R. Swindoll
booklet

For related resources, please call:
USA 1-800-772-8888
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CANADA 1-800-663-7639
UK 0800 915 9364
or visit www.insight.org
or www.insightworld.org

