

PARENTING: FROM SURVIVING TO THRIVING
RESTORING RELATIONSHIPS AFTER YOU'VE BLOWN IT
ISAIAH 58:6-12



The Heart of the Matter

As parents, two words haunt us more than any others: “If only . . .” We say them with slumped shoulders and deep frowns. “If only I hadn’t said that . . . If only I hadn’t done this . . . If only I had been more gracious . . . If only I could turn back the clock.” But we can’t turn back the clock. However, that doesn’t mean that we have to live with remorse or regret for the rest of our lives. God provides a way for our relationships to be restored.



Discovering the Way

1. Painful Realities All of Us Must Accept

Before reconciliation can begin, we must come to grips with three realities about life.

2. Helpful Guidelines for Rebuilding and Restoring (Isaiah 58:6–12)

Reconciliation is like building a bridge, but we are only responsible for our sides. As we begin the bridge-building process, we must remember some things that work and some that don’t.



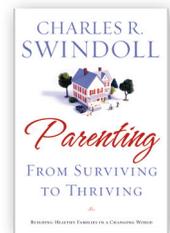
Starting Your Journey

In order for reconciliation to be successful—to build a strong bridge—several things must take place to allow other things to take place.

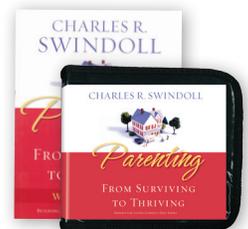
1. We must go with the right motive at the right time.
2. We must remain open and willing to hear whatever the other person says.
3. We must be patient.
4. We must be committed to a constructive relationship.



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



Clearing Away the Trash We Regret
by Charles R. Swindoll
booklet

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CANADA 1-800-663-7639
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