

# A Spirit-Filled Parent

*Colossians 3:16-21*

## I. The Role

**Genesis 18:17-19** The Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, 18 seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has promised him.

## II. The Responsibility

*How do we as parents provoke our children?*

- by not loving your spouse as God commands
- by neglecting
- by being proud
- by idolizing your children
- by being overprotective
- by showing favoritism
- by nagging
- by ignoring the heart
- by moralizing
- by intimidating (abusive words / physical abuse)
- by exaggerating
- by assuming
- by comparing
- by bribing
- by setting unrealistic goals
- by failing to allow them to grow up
- by failing to treat them as young adults

**Mark 10:13-14** And they were bringing children to Him that He might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. 14 But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to Me, do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.

### III. The Reason

**Psalm 145:3-6** Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable! 4 One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. 5 On your glorious splendor of your majesty and on your wondrous works I will meditate. 6 They shall speak of the might of Your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.

*“Finally, a word to my sons. The book is dedicated to you, Karsten and Benjamin and Abraham and Barnabas. Things have changed since 1991. None of you was married then. Now you are all married and have children. And all of you have a sister now, Talitha Ruth, a remarkable gift of God to our family. My goal for you all has not changed in these twenty years. If there is any legacy I want to leave you, it is not money nor house nor land; it is a vision of God—as great and glorious a God as one could ever see. But more than that, I want to leave the legacy of passion for this God. He bought you with a great price. You are precious to him. And to me. I pray that your passion for him will be a passion far beyond what any human can produce—a passion for God flowing from the very heart of God. Never forget that God is most glorified in you when you are most satisfied in him. But even more—and this is my prayer for you—in God’s time, may your satisfaction in him be without measure, as it becomes the very pleasure of God in God.”*

**(Piper, The Pleasures of God)**