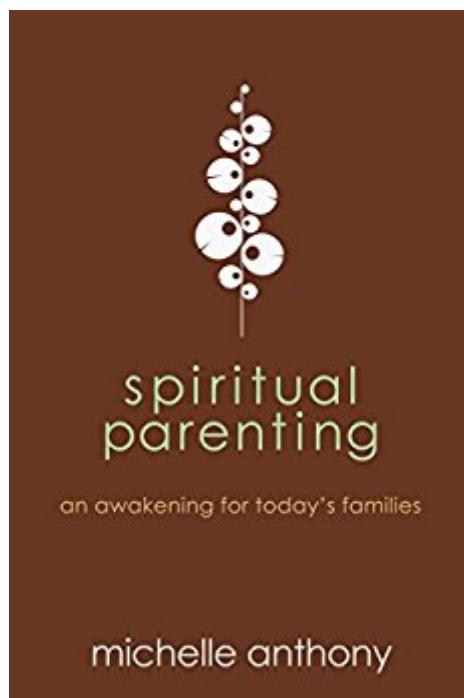


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# Spiritual Parenting: An Awakening For Today's Families



## **Synopsis**

It's hard enough to train kids to behave, but good behavior isn't what Jesus calls for in the Bible. He wants hearts and souls that are shaped in vibrant faith and love toward God and others. How can parents cultivate this in their children? In this book Dr. Michelle Anthony shares practical examples and biblical insight on the spiritual role of parenting. Spiritual Parenting introduces the simple but revolutionary concept that parents are, by the power of God's Spirit, to obey and depend on God in order to create an environment God can use to beckon their children to Him.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Dr. Anthony has done a great job instructing parents in their role of spiritual parenting. The reader is taken through various "environments" we can provide for our children at home. My youngest is 18 and I still found very useful information in this book. If you have younger children, this book is very timely for you. I went through the DVD series at church, along with reading the book. Highly recommend this book.

Great book - she is spot on with so much! Although there are other ways to do things that we have seen in other books, in almost every case I would say her suggestions are some of the best. My husband and I are facilitating a class at church using this book as well as a manual and video that the company puts out, and it has been such a great class for everyone. The book is also great alone, but is well-enhanced by the video (Michelle Anthony has a great presence and she is very easy to like and relate to).

Excellent! I wish I'd had this book when I raised my children. Michelle does a great job of outlining how to make Christianity relevant in practice and keep children engaged and learning to grow in the faith rather than abandoning it as irrelevant. Also great for Sunday school teachers, grandparents and anyone else who cherishes the kids in their lives and wants to speak into their lives effectively.

Fantastic book with practical ideas for having and inspiring a Christ-centered life. I want to read it over and over to keep the ideas fresh in my mind.

I like books. No, I really like books and usually have three going at a time. This past week though, one captured my attention so much that I dropped the other books to finish it. When David C. Cook invited me to review this book for my blog, I jumped at the chance. I'm always interested in checking out books on Christian parenting. In all honesty, I usually find myself skimming them just to get through them, but Spiritual Parenting was different. Michelle's take on being a Christian parent was honest and refreshing right from her purpose statement in the first chapter: "It was not my job to merely control my child's behavior and by doing so somehow create a spiritual life for him or her...my goal was to pass on a vibrant and transforming faith." And with this purpose statement, she's calling parents to a radical way of life. In order for parents to pass on that "vibrant and transforming faith" they have to model it, live it out in what they say and do, and become proactive with the experiences they offer their kids. What's great about Michelle's book, however, is that she understands the reality of the messy lives of families. She shares some of her worst parenting moments as well as success that remind us that if we keep at this thing called parenting, good will come of our efforts. God will bless our families as we seek after him and make a home where he is the focus and the drive for what we do. She walks parents through ten environments they can create in their homes from storytelling to serving together to moving our families out of our comfort zones. The advice is practical yet visionary. I can't wait to get this book into the hands of our families at

church. I believe it could radically change the way we raise our kids in faith. I especially loved her chapter on the environment of service where she has families ask the question "What needs to be done?" "Creating an environment where your children from the earliest days as a very important question is critical for their faith development. The critical quest that service asks is simply, "What needs to be done?" This is one of the best questions you can teach your children to ask. To have them walk into any room, situation, or relations and ask this will change the way they see their world." I loved that vision for family.... for life really. I'm excited to try this out with my own family. I highly recommend this book to parents just starting their journey and to those who need a shot in the arm for the next chapter of their family's life.

This book is amazing and has been a tremendous spiritual help in raising my children. I joined our school's all year round book club, meeting ones a month to discuss the book. The author has come to our church and gave a lecture. Loved her and how her relationship w God is contagious. I have been sending books to my friends to enjoy this treasure of a book.

I could try to summarize this incredible book for you in a paragraph, but Michelle Anthony does it so much better that I could hope to do. In her words: "In this book we will explore what it means to seek God as our primary audience-to please Him alone with our parenting and seek Him alone for the strength and power to do so. Spiritual parenting is not perfect parenting-it's parenting from a spiritual perspective with eternity in mind. It's a way of parenting that declares, 'I want to parent the child or children that God gave me in such a way that I first honor God, and then second, create the best environment to put my children in the path of the Divine.'" This book was an awakening for me in many ways, but I want to share with you about the part that really impacted me the most. Michelle talks about blessing our children with our words. Now I have always prayed for and with my sons, but really hadn't given much thought about speaking those words of blessing over them and to them out loud. Michelle wrote, "A blessing is a beautiful gift to give our children. This is a unique privilege-to pray over your children, to affirm their identity out loud. Oftentimes we pray in silence for our children, but if we speak a blessing to them faithfully, God can use these spoken words in ways that will bring them confidence in their identity as we give language to the work that God is doing in their lives." Michelle spoke directly to my heart as I so want to encourage my sons to be all that God has created them to be and to be confident in all that God has planned for their lives. I have already begun to share words of blessings with my sons and am so thankful to Michelle for her guidance. Spiritual Parenting is a book that I highly recommend to parents everywhere.

I felt the book had a lot of good personal examples of how this couple learned to have spiritual input into their children's lives. I bought copies of the book for each of our four children to use with their families. The seminar of the same book was also enlightening.

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