



# spiritual parenting

an awakening for today's families

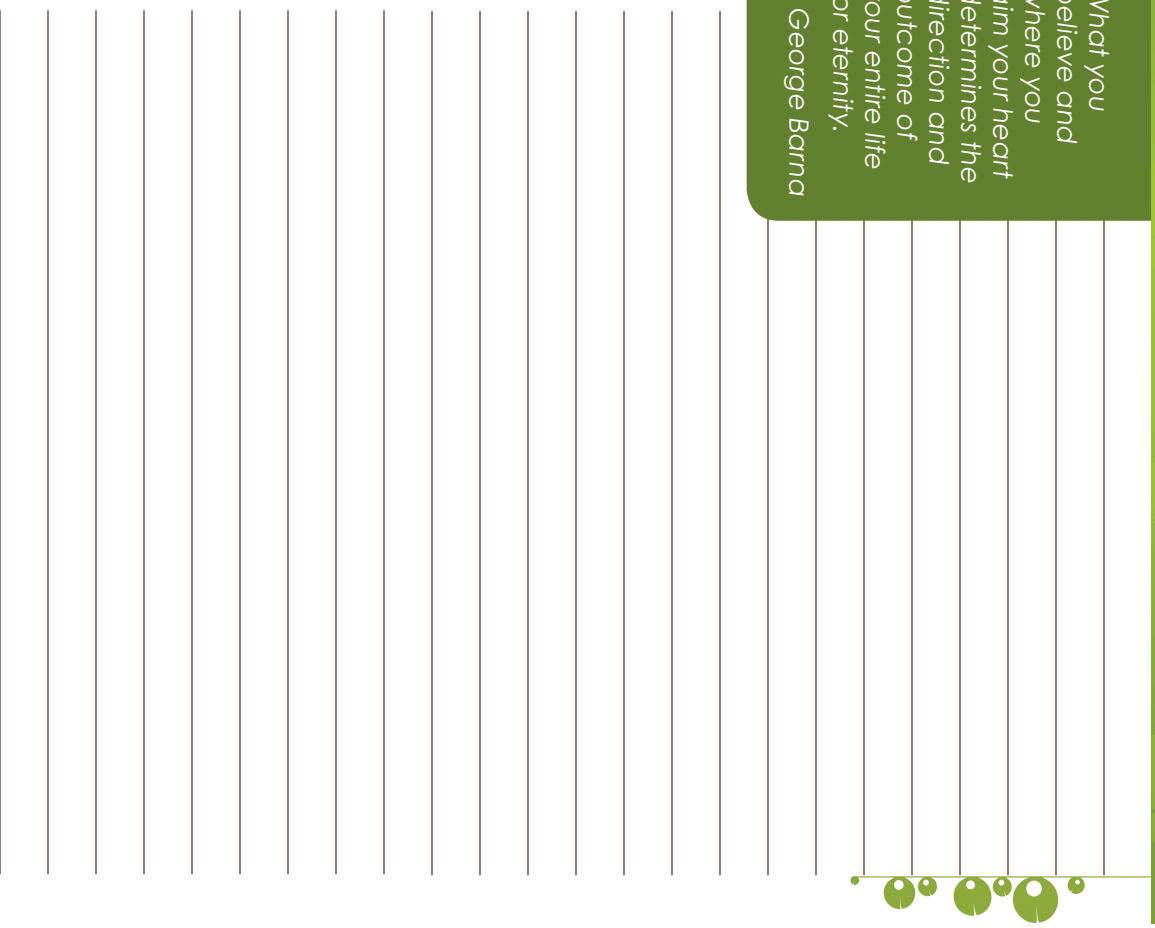
# Session 1

## Awakening to Spiritual Parenting

### Ah! Moments

What you believe and where you aim your heart determines the direction and outcome of your entire life for eternity.

- George Barna



A series of horizontal lines for writing, with a decorative graphic of green circles at the bottom right.

## Questions for Reflection

Take some time after Session 1 to discuss these questions with your spouse or another adult who is involved in your child's life. Write down your thoughts. You'll have a chance to share these at the beginning of Session 2.

*If you don't have someone with whom to discuss these questions, you will find they are useful for journaling on your own.*

1. What are some of the things we do in an effort to be perfect parents?
2. How is Spiritual Parenting different from the kind of parenting you are used to?
3. When you think about raising your children in the midst of an evil world to be light in the world, what questions or responses come to your mind?

4. How would you like your children to define themselves? What are some qualities you'd like to see in them by the time they are grown up?

5. Where do you see the Holy Spirit already at work in your child's life?

6. How might you come alongside and support what the Spirit is doing?

**Read chapters 1 and 2 in *Spiritual Parenting*.**







## Questions for Reflection

1. How can you model service to your family?
2. What would happen if you asked your child how they served your family today?
3. In what way are you preparing your child with skills and faith muscles to be able to walk through a trial and be strengthened, not victimized by it?
4. Signs of children who are living in excessive comfort include laziness, ingratitude, lack of motivation, selfishness, slothfulness, a critical spirit, and gluttony--among others. Reflect on these words. Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal to you areas where your child's comfort may be affecting how God could be using him/her in the Big God Story.
5. Having kids is scary. As parents what are we afraid of? That our child's pain may be so severe we won't be able to endure watching it? That they may have such a severe trial they will lose their faith altogether or wander away from God? Are we afraid that during their trials others may look at us and wrongly judge our parenting skills? Take time to reread these questions and write down a recent moment where your child was out of their comfort zone and your reaction. When did you ask God to help?
6. Where do you see the Holy Spirit already at work in your child's life with regard to service and out of the comfort zone?
7. How might you come alongside and support what the Spirit is doing?

**Read chapters 6 and 7 in *Spiritual Parenting*.**



## Questions for Reflection

1. How can you invite the Holy Spirit to lead you and your child to see responsibility as a privilege rather than a burden? What would change in your attitude, behavior, and response to others?

2. What are some of the things as a parent that you do that get in the way of teaching your child to be responsible?

3. Reflect on the discipline style you were raised with...was it a wrath-of-God type of discipline? or were you raised with little discipline? How did it affect you? Your relationship with God? Your responsibility?

4. Think of your child. What are appropriate painful things for your child? In what way could you build your child up?

5. Have you been awakened to any ways in which you've been thwarting what the Holy Spirit wants to do in your home? If so, where have you been off track? What would you like to do differently?

**Read chapters 8 and 9 of *Spiritual Parenting*.**



## Questions for Reflection (continued)

5. Where do you see the Holy Spirit already at work in your child's life in regards to respect, knowing God and modeling faith?
6. How might you come alongside and support what the Spirit is doing?





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