

Spirit of Parenting – From Paul Tripp, *14-Gospel Principles of Parenting*

1) Calling: Parents are called to be Ambassadors of God (not bosses of their children).	Nothing is more important in your life than being one of God’s tools to shape a human soul. Deuteronomy 6:4–9 and 20–23 summarize the value that God places on parenting.
2) Grace: Parents model grace to the degree they understand the grace they have received.	God never calls you to a task without giving you what you need to do it. He never sends you without going with you. Ephesians 3:20–21.
3) Law: God’s Perfect and Good Nature	Your children need God’s law. Which comes not from head knowledge but heart encounter with God through the Holy Spirit. Romans 7:13-21
4) Inability: Salvation is God’s work.	Recognizing what you are unable to do is <i>essential</i> to good parenting. God has tasked parents with many things, but nowhere in his word has he tasked you with the responsibility to create heart change.
5) Identity: Do you really believe your Identity as a Child of the Risen King?	If you are not resting as a parent in your identity in Christ, you will look for identity in your children. Second Peter 1:3–9
6) Process: change is a process and not an event.	You must be committed as a parent to long-view parenting. Even the world’s best teacher — Jesus — had a process mentality and, because he did, he was willing to leave his work to unfinished people (see John 16:12–15).
7) Lost: Children are born with a heart condition – selfish rebellion that leads them astray.	As a parent you’re not dealing just with bad behavior, but a <i>condition</i> that causes bad behavior. Luke 15 is a tremendous help to parents, because it sheds light on the condition that is the reason for all you have to deal with in the thoughts, desires, choices, words, and actions of your children.
8) Authority: Do your children see/believe that you submit to the authority of God in your life?	One of the foundational heart issues in the life of every child is authority. Teaching and modeling the protective beauty of authority is one of the foundations of good parenting. Ephesians 6:1–4
9) Foolishness: Blatant ignorance of Who God is and What He has done	The foolishness inside your children is more dangerous to them than the temptation outside of them. Only God’s grace has the power to rescue fools. Psalm 53:1–3 reveals that your child has the heart of a fool and, because he does, he is a danger to himself and desperately needs God’s arms of rescue that come through your parenting care.
10) Character: Understanding our Identity in Jesus and Submitting our lives to the Holy Spirit develops Godly Character.	Not all of the wrong your children do is a direct rebellion to authority; much of the wrong is the result of a lack of character. Romans 1:25 and 28–32 connect character issues to the most significant of all human functions — worship.
11) False Gods: If we take our eyes off of Jesus, we’ll worship something else	You are parenting a worshiper, so it’s important to remember that what rules your child’s heart will control his behavior. This should be no surprise, considering how often the Bible warns us (see Exodus 20:3, Deuteronomy 11:16, 1 Samuel 12:21, and many more).
12) Control: Again, a function of the Holy Spirit!	The goal of parenting is not control of behavior, but rather heart and life change. No matter how successfully you control their choices and behavior, your control cannot and will not free your kids from a deeper need – a clean heart (Psalm 51:6, 10, 17).
13) Rest: Unto the Lord (the True Spirit of Sabbath)	It is only rest in God’s presence and grace that will make you a joyful and patient parent. This may surprise you, but I cannot think of any directive from the mouth of Jesus that is a more appropriate call to every Christian parent than the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18–20).
14) Mercy: The sign of a submitted heart	No parent gives mercy better than one who is convinced that he/she desperately needs it. Hebrews 4:14–16 gives us a model for a life-long mission of humbly, joyfully, and willingly giving mercy.

Classroom Management – Adapted from Todd Whitaker, *What Great Teachers Do Differently*

1) It's about people	Great teachers never forget that it is people, not programs, that determine the quality of a school
2) Clear expectations and consistency	Great teachers establish clear expectations at the start of the year and follow them consistently as the year progresses.
3) Say what you mean	Great teachers manage their classrooms thoughtfully and choose their words wisely. When they say something, they mean it.
4) Prevention vs. revenge	When a student misbehaves, great teachers have one goal: to keep that behavior from happening again.
5) Be of Strong character	Great teachers have high expectations for students, but have even higher expectations for themselves.
6) Be the instigator of change	Great teachers know that they are the variable in the classroom. Good teachers consistently strive to improve, and they focus on something they can control: their own performance.
7) Stay focused on the goal	Great teachers focus on students first, with a broad vision that keeps everything in perspective
8) Use REAL praise	Great teachers create a positive atmosphere in their classrooms and schools. They treat every person with respect. In particular, they understand the power of praise.
9) Be the filter	Great teachers consistently filter out the negatives that don't matter and share a positive attitude.
10) Stay credible in relationship	Great teachers work hard to keep their relationships in good repair to avoid personal hurt and to repair any possible damage.
11) Pick your battles well	Great teachers have the ability to ignore trivial disturbances and the ability to respond to inappropriate behavior without escalating the situation.
12) Plan well	Great teachers have a plan and purpose for everything they do. If plans don't work out the way they had envisioned. They reflect on what they could have done differently and adjust accordingly.
13) Teach to the top, not the middle.	Before making any decision or attempting to bring about any change, great teachers ask themselves one central question: What will the best people think?
14) Treat everyone as if they were good.	Great teachers continually ask themselves who is most comfortable and who is least comfortable with each decision they make.
15) Put yourself in their position	Great teachers have empathy for students and clarity about how others see them.
16) True learning is about learning to be a learner	Great teachers keep the informational content in perspective. They focus on the real issue of developing <i>independent learners</i> .
17) Teach to the heart and head	Great teachers care about their students. They understand that behaviors and beliefs are tied to emotion. and they understand the power of emotion to jump—start change.