“Our most powerful parenting happens in the unseen. The real power of parenting is found in prayer, the place where God takes the ceiling off of our children’s lives.” – Sara Haggerty; www.everybitterthingsweet.com

Psalm 25:14 (NLT) Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of his promises.

The goal of spiritual formation is that our children believe, and are saved.

John 14:16-17 (AMP) “And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever— The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.”

The development of spiritual formation of children is far more about who a parent is as a person than what a parent does as a parent, although both are important.
NOW THIS is the instruction, the laws, and the precepts which the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you might do them in the land to which you go to possess it,

That you may [reverently] fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, and keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.

Hear therefore, O Israel, and be watchful to do them, that it may be well with you and that you may increase exceedingly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord [the only Lord].

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your [mind and] heart and with your entire being and with all your might.

And these words which I am commanding you this day shall be [first] in your [own] minds and hearts; [then] You shall whet and sharpen them so as to make them penetrate, and teach and impress them diligently upon the [minds and] hearts of your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down and when you rise up.

And you shall bind them as a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as frontlets (forehead bands) between your eyes. And you shall write them upon the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Spiritual Formation happens most readily when parents and/or grandparents speak, live and pray the words that God speaks.

“The battle for our children’s lives is waged on our knees. When we don’t pray, it’s like sitting on the sidelines watching our children in a war zone getting shot at from every angle. When we do pray, we’re in the battle alongside them, approaching God’s power on their behalf. If we also declare the Word of God in our prayers, then we wield a powerful weapon against which no enemy can prevail.” — Stormie Omartian, The Power of a Praying Parent

For Further Study

1. Read and ponder what these verses say about God’s words or our words:

   Genesis 1
   Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 13-21
2. Consider reading every verse you can find in the New Testament about the Holy Spirit; start with your concordance. Make a list of what the Holy Spirit did in the early church, what Jesus said about him and what He will do for us today as followers of Jesus.