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## ***Preface***

*The Values-Driven Family: A Proactive Plan for Successful Biblical Parenting* was originally published in 2006. At that time, we had just had our fifth child. In our parenting journey up to that point, we had read many books—maybe too many, because integrating the process of parenting with daily living had become a bit confusing and even seemed overwhelming at times.

In order to sort it all out, we needed to get back to the foundation of God’s Word, something that was all too easy to lose sight of when immersed in many ideas—even those from “Christian” books. Marc undertook a thorough cover-to-cover study of the Scriptures and we began to see more and more not just what God wanted us to “do” as parents, but how He wanted us (and our children) to *be*. Essentially, we affirmed that our goal is to maintain close relationships with each other as we also grow in fellowship with God and allow the Holy Spirit to help us mature in Christ-like character.

Granted, the goal seems a bit broad and there are many ways of accomplishing it; however, we’ve learned a lot along the way that has been of practical help as God has worked in the spiritual realm. What we have tried to do for you, our fellow sojourners, is to put the pieces of the parenting puzzle together into a comprehensive package, so that you can see not only the “big picture” of where you’re going, but also successfully meet the smaller challenges of every day.

This third edition of *The Values-Driven Family* reflects some of the changes that we have gone through spiritually and personally as our parenting journey has progressed. Our goal has grown beyond just equipping you as a parent; we also have a passion to encourage you in your primary role as a Kingdom saint. Parenting is just one small piece of a very big puzzle.

We hope that you and your family will be greatly blessed along your journey together, as you strive to glorify God in all things. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of this process!

Blessings,

Marc and Cindy Carrier  
*August 2010*