

# TALK IT OVER

## Parenting Through the Ages

Week 4: *Launch Time – Ages 18+*

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Icebreaker: When did you leave your childhood home and where did your launch to?

*Ecclesiastes 3:1,4-5 (NLT) For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven...A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance...A time to embrace and a time to turn away.*

Reference: *Kid CEO: How to Keep Your Children From Running Your Life* by Ed Young, Jr.

“Parenting is the process of teaching and training your children to leave.” (pg 14)

## What Launch Timers Need

### 1. Our Unwavering Prayers

Scripture: *Colossians 1:9-10 (NIV) We have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way.*

✓ **Pray for Godly relationships**

*Proverbs 13:20 (NLT) Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.*

✓ **Pray for protection**

*Psalms 91:9-11 (NLT) If you make the Lord your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your home. For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go.*

✓ **Pray for their relationship with God**

*Philippians 1:6 (NLT) And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*

### 2. Our Unending Patience

Scripture: *Galatians 6:9 (NIV) Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

*Proverbs 16:3 (NLT) Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.*

### **3. Our Unconditional Love**

*Scripture: Luke 15:13 (NLT) "A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living.*

*Luke 15:20 (NLT) And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.*

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What did you enjoy the most about leaving home for the first time?
2. What did you miss the most when you left home?
3. In what ways did your parents prepare you well?
4. In what areas do you wish they had prepared you better?
5. If you have kids, what are you doing to prepare them to leave?
6. Can you identify any gaps that need to be filled before they leave?
7. What could you do to encourage a recently launched adult you know?

### **Action Items**

1. Download the *Parent Cue* app
2. Use *Phase Cards* for age-appropriate engagement with children