

## GOING FURTHER

### LAKE POINTE SUPPORT

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#### **Faith Path: Launch**

This free kit is available for download or pick-up from the campus HomePointe Center or [lakepointe.org/faithpath](http://lakepointe.org/faithpath). It includes a special video and other tools to help you launch your young adult as they leave the nest.

#### **Four:Nineteen Student Ministries**

In an effort to come alongside parents, Lake Pointe Church sponsors a range of ministries for teens. If your student needs a pastor speaking into his or her life, visit the website at [fournineteen.com](http://fournineteen.com) to explore opportunities for getting your child connected to one of the student pastors.

For more  
resources, visit the  
HomePointe Center

OR

[homepointe.org](http://homepointe.org)

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## *Launching Young*

## ADULTS

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P O I N T E R

# LAUNCHING YOUNG ADULTS

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After years of saying, “*When I grow up, I’m gonna be...*” there comes a point in which your children start going through the steps of actually making it happen. Dr. James Dobson calls ages 16 to 26 the “*critical decade*” as young people transition from childhood to an adult. We’ve all heard the phrase “*failure to launch*” describing young men and women who don’t make that transition for one reason or another. Unfortunately, more and more parents are inadvertently keeping their children from growing up by protecting them from the risks necessary to adulthood.

## How can you be intentional about successfully launching your older children?

### STEP ONE

#### Be a Good Coach

As the parent of a teen on the verge of adulthood, you are in the prime of the coaching years. You can motivate, encourage, challenge and advise, but you can’t force feed. You can help your son or daughter articulate what they believe, challenge their thinking, remind them of the “*basics*” they learned during their earlier years, but the time has come for them to truly own their beliefs. Through that process, you can provide a safe environment to wrestle with and even question the values they learned as children. The key to your influence at this point is in maintaining a strong relationship and frequent, open dialogue.

### STEP TWO

#### Give Perspective Amid Their Big Questions

Making the transition into adulthood, your son or daughter will face big questions like: What kind of work should I do? Where should I live? What should I do with my life? The most important thing you can do during this season is to direct them back to overarching Biblical principles. The last words of King David to his son, Solomon, (1 Chronicles 28:9) provide a model for parents advising emerging adults: “*And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve Him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches every heart and understands*

*every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.”*

In the midst of the practical advice parents may offer on setting goals, choosing a job, finding a spouse and so forth, we must also elevate God’s principles such as...

*Unless the Lord builds the house, its  
builders labor in vain (Psalm 127:1)*

*Lose your life to find it (Luke 9:23-24)*

*Number your days, that we may  
gain a heart of wisdom (Psalm 90:12)*

*Seek first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6:33)*

### STEP THREE

#### Give a Vision for Marriage and Family

Parents today often go to extremes to help their children get ready for college and the workforce, but don’t know exactly what they can do when it comes to preparing them for the more important work of marriage and family. While a small minority will be called to lifelong celibate service, most are called to marriage and family (Genesis 2:18-24). We sometimes overlook how much marriage and family serve as the organizing structure of life and the prime arena for our spiritual development. Even if the culture discourages you from taking an active role in this transition, you have a vital part to play in helping your children “*leave and cleave*.” Actively modeling a Christian family is the foundation, and daily prayer for your child’s future spouse and children is an important commitment. It is essential that you provide guidance and oversight to help your children form strong families as a key emphasis of their launch into adulthood.

## GOING FURTHER

### RESOURCES

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*Life on the Edge* by Dr. James Dobson

*Letting Them Go* by Dave Veerman

*Release My Grip* by Kami Gilmour

*Boundless.org*