

**Title:** When They Walk Away

**Text:** *“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*  
(Proverbs 22:6)

**Target Statement:** Their story is not over, and neither is yours.

### **1. Release Them to God Again and Again**

- A. Remember you are doing the best you can with what you know: (Proverbs 4:7)
- B. Accept that faithful parenting does not guarantee perfect outcomes: (Jeremiah 17:9)
- C. Trust that God loves them even more than you do: (Isaiah 49:15–16)
- D. Place your child in God’s hands repeatedly: (Psalm 55:22)

### **2. Guard Your Heart**

- A. If you don’t take credit for their success, don’t take shame for their struggles: (Romans 8:1)
- B. Separate your identity from their choices: (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- C. Release the illusion of control: (Proverbs 3:5-7)
- D. Resist enabling behavior that harms them: (Galatians 6:7)
- E. Guard your heart from bitterness: (Hebrews 12:15)

### **3. Keep the Door Open**

- A. Guard your words and speak truth with love: (Ephesians 4:15)
- B. Look for ways to show genuine interest in their life: (Romans 12:10)
- C. Avoid creating emotional distance through silence: (Proverbs 18:21)
- D. Own what you need to own without expecting anything in return: (Romans 12:18)
- E. Leave space for them to return without shame: (Luke 15:20)

### **4. Fight In the Heavenly Realm**

- A. Pray protection over their life: (Psalm 121:7–8)
- B. Pray for divine intervention in their circumstances: (Jeremiah 33:3)
- C. Pray for the Holy Spirit to bring conviction: (John 16:8)
- D. Consecrate your home and environment to the Lord: (Joshua 24:15)

E. Declare God's promises over their life: (Isaiah 55:11)

F. Protect your own spiritual health: (Proverbs 4:23)

G. Choose forgiveness rather than resentment: (Colossians 3:13)

**5. Wait For God to Do What Only God Can Do**

A. Never give up on God: (Hebrews 11:1)

B. Never give up on your child: (Galatians 6:9)

C. Trust that the timeline belongs to God: (Isaiah 55:8–9)

D. Believe God will restore what the enemy tried to steal: (Joel 2:25)

**Takeaway Statement:** God specializes in homecoming stories.