

When Our Children Leave Home

by Bill Crews

When the children of Christians leave home, and most of them by that time have themselves become Christians, the majority of them fall away from the Lord. Even when parents have done their very best in rearing their children, some of them will not remain faithful to the Lord. But I want to stress two points: (1) In many cases both the parents and the home congregations could do better jobs of grounding and strengthening those children. (2) Perhaps as parents we indulge their eager desires to leave home and “be out on their own” and “prove themselves” a little too soon. I know that anyone who is old enough to become a Christian is old enough to live as a Christian, and that any son or daughter who is old enough to leave home is old enough to shoulder responsibility and behave in the eyes of men and of God. But just how strong, how mature is the average 18 or 19-year-old? I do not know how many out of the thousands enrolled in our universities here are Christians who came from conservative churches (probably enough to constitute a good size Bible class), but I can tell you how many are attending services at Roanridge — four! The others left home too soon.

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