

## *A Marriage Minute*

To Help Your Marriage be just a little better today!

### AN EMPTY NEST



*“And this is my covenant with them says the Lord, ‘My spirit will not leave them, and neither will these words I have given you. They will be on your lips and on the lips of your children and your children’s children forever, I, the Lord, have spoken!’” --  
Isaiah 59:21*

It is a difficult time when a child leaves home. Some of us are already experiencing “The Empty Nest Syndrome” The real tragedy is that if we haven’t been working on our marriage all along that nest will be filled with total emptiness when the children are gone.

We all hurt in our own ways when a child goes off to college, or simply decides it’s time to go on his or her own. We’re facing this now. Our son has moved out, because he simply decided it was time for him to be on his own, and our daughter will be getting married in a couple of months, and she too, will leave the nest. My first thought, particularly as a Mom is “My babies, how will we make it without them?” Then we begin thinking of the trials they will face without us to help them out. The reality is ***I miss my child!*** The hurt is felt in various ways, and the tears are shed at various times. That’s normal. But if we do not remember who they really belong to recovery will take significantly longer.

Children are a blessing from God. They belong, not to us, but to Him. He blesses us by lending them to us for a season. We do the best we can loving, teaching, nurturing, training and enjoying them. Then, before we know it time is up. It’s difficult to face the thought of releasing them into the world as it is today. Only our faith in God, and His promise to watch over them makes it manageable. If we’ve taken the time to train them up in the way they should go, they won’t depart from it. Now, just what that particular journey looks like is different for each individual. Only God knows the way each one should go. The one thing we can count on is God’s promise to spread his wings over our children to keep them in the safety of His presence.

**Questions for both of us:** How are we training our children? Are we the example that shows the children that God, and submission to His Word must be first? Do they see Christ in us? Why, why not?

**Prayer for both of us:** Dear God, help us to glorify you in the way we take care of the gift you have entrusted to us for a season –our children. Then help us to trust you for their safety when they leave the nest. Draw them ever closer to yourself.

This Marriage Minute is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Ministries. Visit them at [www.marriageandfamily.org](http://www.marriageandfamily.org)

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