



### **The last thing you say to your children...**

Some radio and television personalities sign off their broadcast by using a familiar process. Walter Cronkite closed every newscast by saying: "...and that's the way it is." So how do you close every day with your kids? It could be a simple "Daddy loves you," or telling them why they make you proud. The point is continually reinforcing how much you treasure your children. It's the best way to end the day.

### **Losing your marbles...**

If you want to get a visual of the fleeting time you have left with your children living at home, figure out how many Saturdays you have with them starting now until they turn 18. Then buy that amount of marbles and put them in a jar on your dresser. Every Saturday, take one of those marbles and throw it away. You'll never get that day back.

This will help you prioritize what's really important and how you should spend that precious and irreplaceable time with them.

### **Patience in hard times...**

Patience in a difficult situation has been defined as being in an unplanned place and walking at an unplanned pace. We've all been there. Most of us have stayed there for quite some time. But if you believe everything happens for a reason, which it does, then this difficulty you are going through has a purpose. It is building your character to become something better. Severe difficulty is the best part of life because it moves you from self-reliance to God-reliance. Embrace hardship as a good friend who will lead you to a more meaningful and purposeful life.