

EPISODE 04

[INTRODUCTION]

[0:00:05.2] Aaress Lawless: Hi there. Welcome to Today's Homeschool Teen, a podcast for homeschooling parents who want to help their teens meet the challenges of high school and reach their incredible God-given potential. I'm your host, Aaress Lawless. On behalf of our team at Dual Credit at Home, thank you for joining me.

Today, we're honored to have Connie Albers, author of *Parenting Beyond the Rules* joining us. Connie and I are going to be talking about teens, rules, screen time, plus, we'll even talk about moms who are done home schooling, what's next for them?

[INTERVIEW]

[0:00:43.4] Aaress Lawless: Connie, thank you so much for taking time to join us on our podcast today. I am looking forward to chatting.

[0:00:49.3] Connie Albers: I'm just happy to be with you guys, this is going to be awesome.

[0:00:52.4] Aaress Lawless: Thank you. Well, let's get started by hearing a little bit more of your home school story. I've had a chance to hear bits and pieces but I would love for our listeners to get to know the Albers family a little bit more.

[0:01:04.0] Connie Albers: Yes, well, the Albers family began their journey with their mother being asked, AKA me, being asked if I would consider homeschooling when my first born was about to go to kindergarten, I said no. My husband then came back to me and said, would you prayerfully consider it?

Well, when you prayerfully consider something, that means you're opening your mind and your heart up to the Lord changing your mind and your plans. I said sure, I will do it for one year. It worked and then the next year, the sister, his sister was to be starting and I said, if he goes away now then he won't get to

be with his sister. Let's do them together. One more year. Then, I got pregnant and then it was, well, it's working.

If I send him away now, they won't have time with their little brother and the story just kind of kept going like that because I have five children and five children in seven years. You can understand that I was pregnant and nursing for a lot of consecutive years.

[0:02:04.6] Aaress Lawless: Wow, that's incredible.

[0:02:04.6] Connie Albers: Then it kind of went to you know, listen, I'm going to put him in middle school because I don't know if I can even do middle school to you know, I'm going to do middle school because that's when the mysterious Marky Marvel is hormonal mental years again. I'll do middle school. Then it was – they're definitely going to high school.

Well, we've made it through middle school. Now they're like little human beings and we can have great conversations, I'll continue on. Our journey did last from kindergarten through 12th grade with all five of the children and it was a journey of 21 years. We had an amazing time of highs and lows. But always two steps forward, sometimes one step back but never totally fall apart and there were days I wanted to throw in the towel but we just kept persevering.

[0:02:54.3] Aaress Lawless: How old are your kids now?

[0:02:55.9] Connie Albers: Oh no. I don't know.

[0:03:01.1] Connie Albers: Truthfully, I have a 32, 31, 28, 26, 25-year-old.

[0:03:07.8] Aaress Lawless: That's incredible.

[0:03:08.8] Connie Albers: They all are out of therapy now and they're doing – I'm kidding, for you listeners out there, I'm just joking.

[0:03:18.0] Aaress Lawless: Now, they had a unique college experience as well. Tell us a little bit about that?

[0:03:22.9] Connie Albers: Well, we had three desires for our family that our children would grow up and love the Lord. I mean, not just go to church but they would love the Lord. But they would love to do life with their family and that they would have a heart for their community. When it came to be college time, my first son had some high ambitions at being an NBA basketball player and he was pursuing that passion.

I took out a spreadsheet and I just basically said, all right, now, if you go pursue this endeavor, this is what it will cost you and if you go here, which was a local university, we live in Orlando so the University of Central Florida is local. If you go to this other college you'll have to get a lot of academic scholarships.

He was a national merit commended student and I said, just look at the numbers. He made the decision to stay at home and go to the University of Central Florida because he's very good with math and he saw how much money he could save.

[0:04:19.9] Aaress Lawless: Yeah.

[0:04:20.8] Connie Albers: The next year his sister was deciding where to go but because we started planting the seeds early, all our kids decided to attend the same university and have a story that they all tell on their own of a shared college experience. But they all lived at home.

[0:04:38.0] Aaress Lawless: That's incredible.

[0:04:39.9] Connie Albers: Absolutely loved it. All the kids went to college with zero college prepay, no student loans and zero debt.

[0:04:47.7] Aaress Lawless: Wow. That is almost unheard of.

[0:04:51.2] Connie Albers: That's another podcast. We'll have to come back to that topic.

[0:04:53.1] Aaress Lawless: Exactly.

[0:04:53.7] Connie Albers: The University of Central Florida had not only had a sibling group at five homeschoolers, but also graduate college. They did a piece on our family called The Family of Night.

[0:05:05.8] Aaress Lawless: Love that! Well, congratulations and I would love to talk more about their college experience, that's pretty incredible. But you just released a new book called *Parenting Beyond the Rules*. I love the title, what was the catalyst behind this? What made you want to get this part of your story down on your paper?

[0:05:25.1] Connie Albers: I was wrapping up our home schooling experience, I had two years left and I was like God, what am I going to do next? What's the next assignment, what's the next project, I was standing in the parking lot with my daughter who was like 24 at the time and she said, "Mom, you've done all these things BC before children and you're doing all these things now that children are all you know, relatively grown" and she said.

She made this really big circle and two smaller circles and she said mom, this is your life's greatest work. Look at your family, look at what you and daddy built. This is what you need to do and at that moment, I just was crying. I thought, this is what Proverbs 31 looks like. I had no idea, I'd never seen it before. Your children rise up and actually say you did something right, you know?

They only do that when they want the keys to the car.

[0:06:19.3] Aaress Lawless: Exactly.

[0:06:21.6] Connie Albers: Shopping.

[0:06:21.6] Aaress Lawless: Or allowance.

[0:06:23.4] Connie Albers: Yeah. I just stood there crying and I thought, you know, Lord, what is the next thing and he said, I want you to write. I thought, well that came out of nowhere. Some people are

aspiring writers. I wasn't, I was a communicator. I speak and I run organizations. That kind of came out of left field but it was a journey that took – he whispered that in my ear in 2012.

If you do the math, you'll notice, this was a very long process for us because the book just launched. But Jeanie was the catalyst for this whole book. I knew parenting teenagers is the hardest season of parenting for various reasons and mostly because the consequences to their decisions have lifelong ramifications.

My husband and I had been working with teens for about 20, 25 years. I kept listening to what these kids were saying and I know we're going to talk about this later but I just tucked all those comments away and when the opportunity came to write a book, to get a literary agent, to get a publisher, my heart was to help other families keep the heart of their teen and build relationships. I want them to celebrate the teen years, not dread them.

[0:07:36.1] Aaress Lawless: So true. I think, a lot of the families that we've talked to, when they get to those homeschooling high school years, it's so scary and doesn't necessarily have to be but I think you've tapped on such a big part of it and it's having the heart of your teen in advance.

Now, what do you think most teens wished they could tell their parents when it comes to rules and boundaries. I remember when I was a kid, there were those things I really wished I could tell my parents but just couldn't.

[0:08:04.3] Connie Albers: You know, I'm going to flip it on you here. Why couldn't you? I'm just curious what your response would be?

[0:08:11.2] Aaress Lawless: Yeah, that's a good question. I think one of the things that happened for me was I was concerned about the relationship and about getting in trouble. I was concerned about how do I communicate that and I'm more of a written communicator and I remember as a kid, I would leave notes.

You know, if I had done something wrong, I'd leave a note about it. Instead of actually – if I wanted something desperately or you know, I would just leave notes those hints because I felt like I couldn't necessarily have that face to face conversation all the time.

[0:08:41.3] Connie Albers: You know, I'm just going to tell you, I did so many surveys and there were two things that I learned in this process and one is your kids do want to tell you, just like you said, they want to tell you, they have this incredible desire to please their parents. Most of them do, not all, but most of them do. If they know that they are loved and that there is that healthy relationship here, kids want to please the parents and there's this fear that grips them that if I do X, they're going to withhold love, I'm going to disappoint them, or I'm going to be grounded for the rest of the year.

[0:09:14.6] Aaress Lawless: Right.

[0:09:16.1] Connie Albers: Those are all real factors in teens not talking to their parents. You tapped on two of them and the other one was just that there is this fear of not being conditionally loved, right? When it comes from the parents and I actually write about that in the book. There are hindrances that cause us to withhold love and some of those are from the mom and dad's perspective, we have expectations and I talk about managing those expectations.

[0:09:44.0] Aaress Lawless: So true, because the expectations are such a huge thing. You know, well past my teens, in my 30s and I still struggle with expectations and kids feel that so much.

[0:09:56.0] Connie Albers: Yeah, I mean, we still try, even, you know, wherever we are in our journey, we're always still trying to win the hearts and approval of our parents, even if we're adult, parents of adult children like in my case, I still wanted my mom's approval, not that I needed it the same way I did as a child, but I wanted her to be proud of what I was doing, wanted her to be proud of the person I had become.

I think we can – get out of balance with that obviously but that's just a normal thing and our kids want the same thing and you know, it's kind of why we try to be good parents and we want them to trust us as that they do open up. It's kind of this beautiful picture. They learn to trust us by sharing information

with us and when they share that information with us, if we are not over reactive and we don't negatively react, we are quick to hear the why behind whatever it is that just trap it.

Then they learn to trust us, when they trust us, they learn to open up more and there's this beautiful – it's not a circle where you're spinning, it's just this beautiful thing that's a learning and growing and building that trust that is so needful in a relationship.

[0:11:12.3] Aaress Lawless: It is and you hit on something that I'd love to talk about when you talk about the balance. The need for a balance. I feel like our society has such a pendulum swing that they're doing between you know, I want my kid to be my best friend and I don't want them to see me as a parent and then you have the parent where they're not necessarily concerned about winning their kids love but they just want their kids to obey. Love versus fear.

It would rather, you know, it's better to be feared than loved. What advice would you give to parents for those ways to find that healthy balance between rule setting and relationship building?

[0:11:47.5] Connie Albers: Yes, which is why the whole book became parenting beyond the rules. You know, it's really easy for parents to have limits and boundaries and rules. We need that and children need that, God's word says that if children are allowed to themselves, they bring forth destruction and we have to be mindful of that but when we talk in the context of setting the rules and limits and boundaries, we're actually setting those based on our family.

This is what our curfew is, this is when we eat breakfast, this is when we want the house to be cleaned or we're going to do yard work or we need to do XYZ. For the most part, we are establishing those and what I tell parents is, as your child starts to grow, when they're very young, like elementary age, it is completely apparent, you know, kind of navigate.

Parents make the decisions and the children kind of follow along because they don't have the thinking processing to be able to go further than just doing what mom and dad say. As they start to mature though, they start to push back on those and as I tell parents and I write about this in the book, we have to, as our child starts to grow and change, we have to adjust.

I'm giving parents permission. You mentioned us, you know, gone are the days where it's my rules, my way or the highway or whenever you want to do it. Neither of those work, one, the authoritative parent, because we've just been shown that that just causes anger and frustration and a lot of rebellion because we don't parent every child the exact same way.

The permissive parent on the other hand is just like, you know what? "He'll figure it out." Well, that worked back in the days when you know, we didn't have the Internet and we weren't worried about cyber bullying and Internet chat rooms and our kids being kidnapped.

There was a different timeframe when those two parenting styles were in the forefront. Now, however, our kids have so much before them and that's kind of why I write about that, my work was social media. I started engaging in social media back when it first came out from a "wow, this could really impact business" and then, "my goodness, this is impacting my kids".

I struggled to become a student back when Facebook, you had to have a student account to get a Facebook account. I don't think so, they don't understand homeschoolers and by the end of the day, I had a Facebook account and my son was like, how did you do that? I'm your mom.

You know, the changes in our culture, the dangers that are facing our children are monumental and they're not just falling off of a bike or breaking an arm while they're skateboarding. There are some serious things that can happen to them. That has caused parents to move into the helicopter, the hovering and even the lawnmower and a new one that I didn't even get to write about because it's that new. It's the sweeping parent.

[0:14:49.5] Aaress Lawless: The sweeping parent. I've not heard that one.

[0:14:51.5] Connie Albers: Yes, it's band new so you heard it first.

[0:14:54.1] Aaress Lawless: Yes, I heard it here first. Tell us, what is a sweeping parent?

[0:14:57.5] Connie Albers: You know in the winter Olympics, you have the massive metal smooth ball, it's not a ball.

[0:15:04.6] Aaress Lawless: Curling.

[0:15:05.7] Connie Albers: Curling. I thought they called it sweeping but curling, sweeping. You have everybody out there just kind of moving and sweeping any possible ice that could cause that disk to go off course and not go as far as it could possibly go. Now, lawnmower parenting is going to the next level and that's where you've got everybody, the grandparents, both sets of parents, everybody and their brother is trying to make sure little Johnny goes as far as they absolutely can without having any glitch monster or pitfalls along the way.

That's why I write about it. My whole goal in bringing that up is not to criticize one over the other. It's to explain to the parent what is going on and that it's okay to change and pivot. There are some children we have to be very firm with. But then there are other children that are the "do righters". They are the ones that are compliant, they want to please their parents, they want to get good grades, they want to get up at six in the morning and have their hour long devotion before you call them for breakfast but they've already done the chores.

There are those children too. But not every child is that child. Nor is every child a child that you have to drag out of bed or set four alarms to get them out of bed. I want parents to have a sense of know your child and that's the whole purpose. Know the child that you're parenting and then parent according to that child's need.

[0:16:37.5] Aaress Lawless: So true. Because I think, for the parent that's either just setting out or realizing they've hit the teen years and you know, they're losing their kids in more ways than one, there is that tendency to want to go online and find out list of somebody else's rules and make them their own or you know, we go to Hobby Lobby and buy the really cute plaque that has the list of house rules.

What do you suggest to them as they get started working with their child? What are the things they need to keep in mind as they're creating those new family sets of rules and especially related to social media, how does that play? And you mentioned social media. That is such a big thing right now and having good boundaries, where do parents start?

[0:17:19.2] Connie Albers: It starts by knowing your child. I mentioned that in our last question but it comes by way of knowing your child in a sense of some children are more prone to experience anxiety and stress and FOMO than other children.

[0:17:33.9] Aaress Lawless: So true, can you define FOMO for any of the moms that might not know that one?

[0:17:36.5] Connie Albers: Yeah, Fear of Missing Out. I mean to be honest, you and I can experience that. Sometimes I will sit and scroll through Facebook and you know, we'll get the response out.

[0:17:47.1] Aaress Lawless: That's why we have a personal Facebook.

[0:17:50.6] Connie Albers: But you know, when we like, we're having five children, all of my children were very different. I had some children who were a little more insecure and they were constantly trying to see if they were measuring up to the standard that they saw online. I had others who could care less. I mean they would just scroll through Facebook to see whatever funny stories or memes they could find or whatever things they were doing.

But specifically regarding social media and the rules that we place around them, one, it starts with knowing that child's strengths and weaknesses. Are they pre-disposed to being able to just be an engager, cause promoter, they are really passionate about – here is an example, The Pug Society. They just love those cute little pug dogs and so they are always looking up and researching on Pug Society and all of these cute little pug pictures.

And I tell parents help your child find something that they're interested in from a cause perspective. Like as my daughters got older they were both very much passionate about ending human trafficking. I mean they were so compelled to end and create awareness to what was going on with young women and young men but they were focused on the young women that I started helping them use social media as a tool to promote a positive social message.

Create awareness about a cause, they could actually make a difference in and you're learning how to use social media not from a consumption standpoint where they are not measuring up or they're

comparing themselves to one another but where they're using their time to engage and create awareness about a cause. When you start to do that, you are teaching them to use it as the resource it's designed to be. It is a tool, it's a resource.

It can also be a very dangerous tool if not used properly and put into the wrong hands at the wrong time is what parents need to be aware of. So I say pay attention to that child, know what it is to help them learn what the tool is used for and how they can use it and then monitor it closely. My kids were only given so much time a day for screen time and they had to pick what that screen time was going to be.

[0:20:13.7] Aaress Lawless: That's smart.

[0:20:14.2] Connie Albers: And that was it and they could only use. I know this sounds trivial but it worked for our family. Each child got a certain amount, a coin that represented a certain amount of minutes and they were able to use those coins with me when those hours are open meaning when school work was done because when you're homeschooling, some kids doddle around and some kids get done rather quickly but when they were able to show:

"Okay, I have done what is required of me now. I have this extra time, am I able to use my time doing this research or finding out what is going on over here?" So I know the coin thing can be rudimentary and some parents may come up with something else but it worked for our family and it allowed them to equate time to usage and they didn't just have free reign. I think it is very important to learn how to manage their time because as you and I know, we can get on social media and look up and it is an hour later.

So honestly, we should be very much aware of it but creating a positive social footprint is key during the teen years. If parents wait until the child is say 18 and then they get the smart device and they have the entire world in the palm of their hand and everything is just a click away, danger, destruction, good things as well but you know we want to be super mindful of the danger that awaits them from let's just say bad actors in the online world and space.

If parents wait because they are trying to protect them, what ends up happening is the child turns 17, 18 years old, ends up with a smart device and they don't have the band they have been practicing how to

use it as a tool effectively and that is where I tell parents I am not saying give your eight-year-old or 10 year old a smart device and start all of this. I am not saying that at all. What I am saying teaching them well while they are under your roof and they are teachable is so critical to them having success in using technology because technology is neutral but using the Internet wisely.

[0:22:23.0] Aaress Lawless: So true. Now, you hit on this a couple of times as we talked about technology and social media and you've worked with this professionally as well. So you not just homeschooled, you had a professional career as well. Tell us a little bit of your professional career, how that played out in your homeschool and how parents can know what season to be in as they try to juggle both.

[0:22:45.4] Connie Albers: Yeah, that's a great one. I love speaking on this because I am a mother of five and every mom that is homeschooling knows that your day can be consumed with ratios and chemistry equations and just write the five-point paragraph. That's all I need you to do and it can envelop your day but there is also this desire within many women to use the gifts, strengths and talents that they have to bring in a little extra income or to even further it, to promote a cause that they are passionate about.

So that is kind of what I did. I was very involved in helping to shape and form the homeschooling movement using my marketing and PR background and helping making sure legislation was actually in place that was favorable to homeschoolers. So I wanted my kids to understand the political process. So as I would dive in, they would learn about it. I wanted them to understand how different running an organization, what is the mechanics of running an organization?

So I would run an organization and they would be part of that. With social media in particular, I wanted my kids to know how to use it wisely. Colleges actually over 50% of colleges look at a student's social footprint before deciding to admit them to college because they want kids that are going to make them look good and that led to early on when I started seeing the rise of Twitter and then Facebook, I mean even before that with MySpace and stuff, I wanted to tell businesses reach their audience.

And I wanted homeschooling to continue to educate the community at large and to connect homeschoolers globally and I would teach different organizations how to actually effectively use social media, how to communicate with your people, how to grow your audiences and my kids in fact actually

learned to do that, meaning two of my children have online businesses and they use social media to grow. One has a photography business; one has a videography business.

So I mean they're not scrolling around Facebook. They're learning how to get clients. The other one uses it, she actually worked with me in social media and marketing and that actually helped her land a job as a marketing director right out of school.

[0:25:00.5] Aaress Lawless: That's great.

[0:25:01.8] Connie Albers: So when we are thinking about we're homeschooling, what I love to tell mothers is think about what you can do using your gifts, strengths and talents or your brain power whatever you want to call it that would add value to your homeschoolers, your kids in the process. Not just the making money part of it but what is it that you could actually jump into whether it's volunteering or pay that your kids could actually be a part of it and they see you doing it and you could actually bring them into it and they get a tastes of potential opportunities they could get as well. So the other thing I have to say Aaress is you mentioned something and that was know your season. What people look at my resume they think, "Oh my goodness, how did you do this with five kids?" Part of why I shared the story of the kids going onto college is because my primary goal was to give them the best education I could. The best homeschooling experience that we were able to provide and grow and keep myself going in the process.

So knowing your season starts with when I had babies I needed to take some time off because babies take a lot of extra energy to acclimate them and to assimilate them into the family. Some of your children are in a hard place. Maybe you've got some middle schoolers that are really struggling right now. I always picked a project that I could do where I knew I could push really hard on the gas pedal and then I could pull off if need be and there were seasons of that.

And I tell parents especially moms that I think God has given me the resume he's given me to be a living proof that God does not have second place. He doesn't not have second best for you that when you say yes to your family, when you keep your family and your children the priority and you say yes to the things that complement the family and then you say not now to the other things that there's power in you being able to say, "No not now" not "I wish."

And don't wish that just say not now and here I am, you know I have gone through the trenches and now God has said, "I want you to write a book and now you push it now and you are going to do all of these other really fun things that I really couldn't have done if I was to stay true to the first job that I was given and that was to teach and train my children.

[0:27:30.2] Aaress Lawless: And to see how all the experiences you had as you fulfilled that first job has led you to be successful now down the road. Now when you think about parents that are at that season where their kids have graduated from high school, they've moved out or they are still at home as your kids were during college, what do you say to the parents that are looking to re-enter the job market after say maybe 15, 18 years away?

[0:27:56.0] Connie Albers: Oh that's a great question. Yes and that's what I see a lot of homeschool mothers devalue what they've actually done. They just think, "I'm just a homeschooling mother" and I'm like, "Yeah it's just a job that a lot of people don't get paid for except you" and so I literally walk women through the process of mindset. It is a mindset, what did you do in your homeschooling journey that is a paid skill in the marketplace.

What volunteer opportunities did you take? Perhaps you were administrative assistant or IT person or website developer or you did graphics for your coop, for your homeschool route. Perhaps you help run conventions, perhaps you did social media for your groups, and perhaps you did marketing. Perhaps whatever you tutored English to other students because your child needed help or maybe you brought a bunch of kids into your house and you did science labs or taught science to five or six kids because you wanted your kids to have that shared experience of doing a class with others.

I want moms to go through thinking about all the things that they've done, write them down like I had people who helped me in my book writing process that were stay at home moms they're still in the trenches of homeschooling. They aren't necessarily working fulltime outside of the home but they want to keep their skills sharp. So I would ask them to help edit or help think of ideas or brainstorm or things like that and then I would tell them, that is a paid skill in the marketplace.

As you see the value that what you pay in the marketplace like editing. People think editing isn't much. Well editors can range anywhere between 25 an hour and a 150 an hour depending on what your unique editing skillsets are or even writing. If you write a guest blog post then guess what? You're a writer.

[0:30:00.7] Aaress Lawless: That's right.

[0:30:02.1] Connie Albers: And writers may not make a lot of money but they certainly have knowledge of communication. So I try to help them learn that everything they're doing and the confines of the home whether it's cooking, budgeting, managing that budget because we know homeschoolers have to squeak a whole nickel. They've got to squeak – what is that phrase?

[0:30:25.3] Aaress Lawless: Squeeze the nickel until the time –

[0:30:27.6] Connie Albers: Time overtime or something like that. They get a dime out of the nickel. You know, we know homeschoolers know how to manage money and they are fantastic at finding deals. That is a very big marketable skill. We know that homeschoolers are fabulous at multitasking. I mean I have five kids, five kids in homeschooling and they weren't going away to classes. They were at home. We did do some online and occasionally we do a few things but primarily, we were doing the bulk of the education at home plus cooking plus sports plus music plus every other thing we have to do.

Laundry and take care of the dog and a gold fish and the hamsters but I have them look at even the ability to multitask. Guess what's that called in the workplace? That is called project management. That is a marketable skill.

[0:31:16.3] Aaress Lawless: Highly sought after marketable skill.

[0:31:17.3] Connie Albers: Highly sought after. I love watching mothers that go from thinking they just have to get a job at McDonalds and I am not saying there is nothing wrong with that but you know after 21 years of homeschooling, I didn't want to just go get a job at McDonalds. I thought surely I could do something different but I love watching their eyes light up when they start to realize I didn't waste away. My skills didn't go dull. I actually learned new skills, I've learned planning skills.

I learned this other stuff and watching them then step into the marketplace. So when they create their resume, they don't have to say what they make. They just have to say what skills they've been doing in the last years.

[0:31:58.1] Aaress Lawless: That's right. They've got lots of years of experience.

[0:32:01.3] Connie Albers: Right.

[0:32:02.4] Aaress Lawless: So true. Well, Connie, this has been so great to visit with you. Before I let you go, can you tell us a little bit more about the other online resources and books that you've written and where our listeners can find more information?

[0:32:15.4] Connie Albers: Well you can visit me at conniealbers.com. That is my main, that's my blog, my website. I am also on Facebook @conniealbers.author and for the purpose of our podcast, I have a Facebook group, Parenting Beyond the Rules. It is a closed group and I just want to be able to help moms walk through elements of the book and parenting teenagers and then you can find me on Instagram, Pinterest, all of those platforms @conniealbers and @conniealbers.author.

So yeah, that is where you can find me. I speak all over the country. I'd love to speak to any groups, retreats, women's organizations or homeschool groups, church groups that type of stuff. So that's where I am.

[0:32:58.7] Aaress Lawless: Well I know we'll be looking forward to talking to you more in the future and I hope that our listeners take advantage of that too. So thank you so much, Connie. This has been a great half hour visiting with you.

[0:33:10.1] Connie Albers: Thanks, I've enjoyed it. All the best to you all.

[0:33:12.6] Aaress Lawless: Thank you.

[END OF INTERVIEW]

[0:33:15.6] Aaress Lawless: For those of you listening to today's episode between Connie and I, be sure to check out this episode's show notes. You can find those at our website, dualcreditathome.com/podcast. Inside the show notes, you'll also find a link to Connie's book, *Parenting Beyond the Rules*. Also, don't forget to hit subscribe so you don't miss the next episode of Today's Homeschool Teen.

Thanks again for joining us and we're praying that God blesses you and your family as you homeschool high school.

[END]