



# Strategies for Homeschool Success

An Interview with Lee Binz  
by Ashley Ortega

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Ashley Ortega & Lee Binz, *Strategies for Homeschool Success*

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**Ashley:** Hello. We're so glad you joined us for our Home School Super Heroes Telesummit. My name is Ashley Ortega, and I'm thrilled to be able to have Lee Binz join us today.

Lee and her husband Matt independently home schooled her two boys for 8 years, from elementary through high school graduation. Both boys are on four-year, full tuition scholarships. She is now a home school consultant, working with parents across the country and overseas.

Hi Lee, how are you?

**Lee:** I'm fine Ashley. Thank you for having me.

**Ashley:** We're so glad to be able to do this today. Just to get started, would you mind telling our listeners a little bit about you and your family and your approach to home schooling?

**Lee:** We started home schooling quite a few years ago now, when my children were in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We started mostly because they were gifted and in the gifted program, and it wasn't working at all. We felt like we needed to start home schooling for academic reasons.

After we had been home schooling for a while, we figured out very fast how wonderful it was, what a great fit it was for our family, how little it had to do with academics, and how much it had to do with character and developing quality individuals that would grow up and succeed in society.

We did home school for 8 years, and it was completely independent from that time until they graduated high school. The very last year of high school, we did have one year of Community College dual enrollment. It provided an academics, but I don't feel that was a good decision on our part. We struggled with some of the environment, so even though it's something I have experience at, it's not something I normally recommend to people.

The other thing we did that was a little unusual, we had one year of credit by examination. So essentially my children home schooled college for one year. That was fun. They enjoyed it very much, and it got them off to an excellent start with college.

They started college and were very successful. Even the subjects that I was particularly scared about, like foreign language for example, the kids were extremely successful, even at the college level. And I was frankly surprised. But they did really well, and now they're grown ups. They're 20 and 22. They are very thankful. And both of them have told me how

happy they were that they were home schooled and how they appreciated all the effort that we went through.

I think that's something home school parents need to hear. At the end, when all is said and done, your children will rise up and call you blessed. They will be very thankful that you went through all the effort.

**Ashley:** I completely agree, being in that same position. It was a big blessing to me. I know it was to my parents as well. But just to me as a child, being able to be home schooled.

**Lee:** That's right. Now when we were home schooling, we did use primarily a literature-based curriculum, but that had more to do with the learning styles of my children. And I know that everybody has to find their own way about things. That is sort of my default position, because that's what we did when we were home schooling.

When I talk about our home school, I do often talk about literature-based curriculum. We used Sunlight, but I'm the first one to say that it depends on the kids and it depends on the parents.

**Ashley:** That's really neat. So I know you're a hero to our listeners in the area of high school as well as different strategies, so I was just wondering if you could give us some practical tips and tricks on how our listeners can do those things as well.

**Lee:** Oh sure. I do have some things that I consider to be key strategies for success when you're home schooling in general, but also when you're home schooling high school. I think the number one thing has got to be that you need to always be prepared. It's just like that boy scout motto. Because you don't really know in advance whether your child is or isn't going to college, whether it's important to them. And so for that reason, you'll be best prepared for anything if you provide a college preparation to all of your home school kids.

And the reason for that if they are going to college, it's obviously going to be very important. They can't get in without a good college prep education. But the flip side of that is, if they say that they're not going to college, then that becomes the end of the formal education that they may receive. So you need to make surer that it's the very best education that you can.

Plus, I think parents realize that children tend to change their minds. And that teenagers particularly change their minds even more. So it's not unusual for a teenager to say, I'm never going to go to college, and then maybe a year later decide that they want to be a doctor, or a lawyer, or

something that requires a lot more preparation. So if you provide a college preparation to all of your home schoolers, then no matter what they do or how often they change their mind, you will be prepared for anything.

So that's why I think the most helpful strategy is to always be prepared. When I talk to my friends who are frankly, my age, and they have graduated, when they do talk about regrets, sometimes those regrets revolve around not planning on them being prepared for college when in fact they end up going. That's my key strategy.

And then the second one is something that will come in more handy for people that have younger kids, because this is the strategy I got from my midwife, just moments after my son was born. She handed me my first born, and she said, now listen up. This is the only thing you have to remember. You just need to know your child and trust yourself. And I think that's something that we as home schoolers need to really take to heart. We need to trust ourselves and our own judgment, because other people may have pieces of information, but they don't really know our child the way that we know our child.

And then the next thing has to do with curriculum. I think my third key strategy is to do what works. If you've been plodding along and the curriculum choices that you're using works for you, you're Un-Schooling, or maybe you're using a literature-based curriculum like I was, and that's working, then you want to keep doing what works, and not change because you started high school. And that's something that I see as a consultant. Sometimes people will say, things have been going really really well for my home school, but now my child's in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and everything has to change. What do I do?

And that's not true. It doesn't have to change at all once you start home schooling high school. The things that served you well in the past are going to serve you well in the future. Whatever you've been doing is what you want to keep doing. And similarly, whatever curriculum you've been using will probably still work for you in high school. If you've been using math UC, or something, and your child is learning a lot of math that way, then you don't need to change to a different curriculum just because it's higher rated or something. You want to use what works for your children.

And I'm sure that you found that to be true for yourself, Ashley. The things you find more enjoyable are things that you're going to learn more from.

**Ashley:** Yes. I agree.

**Lee:** And then I think the next key has to be just to keep some forward momentum. I think as home school parents, sometimes we get a little bit afraid of taking the next step, and when kids are younger, the next step might be teaching them to read for the first time, or cursive, or multiplying. And it's a little scary. And I think that those fears can be a little magnified in high school, when people become afraid of going into algebra, or calculus.

As long as you're focused on taking it one step at a time, and just doing that one next thing and not worrying about calculus or physics down the road, just do that math that year. Sometimes, I don't know if you've ever seen this Ashley, but sometimes I see parents who hit the restart button too much. It's like, I don't think my child quite understood algebra, so we're just going to repeat algebra next year. Sometimes that can really slow people down. You don't have to be afraid, you certainly don't have to ensure that your child gets 100% on everything. You can still have some forward momentum and keep moving forward. Every human being alive has gaps in their education. As long as they're learning, you can feel comfortable in moving forward.

And the next thing would be to incorporate the delight-directed learning in the things you do. I'm sure you've worked some with your family and your home business. That can be really fun, and you can learn so much from that, and by incorporating the delight-directed learning into your high school, you can really find the interests and career development ideas that your child is really interested in. And even if they don't like what they're doing enough to continue—like say they were working with their dad in some business for one year, and they find out they don't like it—it's still really good information and it can still guide their future and help them to decide what college or career major they want to follow.

So that delight-directed learning helps whether they stick with it or decide they hate it.

**Ashley:** Can you explain to our listeners a little bit what directed learning means?

**Lee:** Yeah, delight-directed learning means that you're taking the interests of the child and you're trying to find subjects in that area of interest, or you're trying to take their interest and apply it to different subjects. When kids are younger, let's say you have a third grader, as I did, who's very excited about baseball. So we bought a math program called Baseball Math. And he loved it. It was his opportunity to experience baseball and math together.

And it's kind of like that when you're in high school too. If your child is interested in—one of my clients was very interested in Bluegrass music,

and so first I was explaining to her that Bluegrass music was a fine art, and it goes into her transcript under the fine arts. And you might have 4, 6 more credits of fine arts by the time he graduates. And that by encouraging him in his Bluegrass music, he may get some credits in entrepreneurship or business development as he starts selling his CDs.

So you take those experiences and apply those to the different high school areas. The problem is that as parents, it seems to be the things that we see in our children that our children find really interesting are the same things that we as adults sees as being very irritating. And I'm trying to think of a nice way to say it. But my son Alex, he loved economics, and that was all he wanted to do. But I'll tell you, every time he talked about these old, dead economists, all I could think about was how boring, what a horrible thing, could you stop talking about that and do your math. And it was that way with his piano playing. He loved to play the piano. Every time I heard him playing the piano, I knew he wasn't doing something he was supposed to be doing.

I think often the things that are delight-driven for children can also sometimes be things that we personally find irritating, mostly because they're not area of specialization, or we would be playing the piano all the time. It's something the kids are more hot on. When I try to explain to parents, how do you identify an area of delight-directed learning, what a child is passionate about, or their specialization, then one of the keys you can look for is what irritates you as a parent. And I know that sounds just terrible, but if you can what do they do that you tell them to stop, or what do they do when you wish they would be doing something else, that usually indicates their area of specialization, and their kind of delight that you can light on fire as you're trying to find subjects that are interesting to them.

Does that explain it?

**Ashley:** That's great. Thank you very much. That's interesting and neat to think about.

**Lee:** Okay, so then the next key is the 9<sup>th</sup> key is to strive for self-teaching. And the way that looks to me as a home school consultant is when people approach me, they'll say, I finally have failed in math, and I can't do it anymore, and I had to get a video tutorial. I like people to turn that around in their head and say, it's not a sign of failure at all, it's a sign of success. Because success is when you've taught your children how to teach themselves. And if you're handing them a video tutorial, they are learning for themselves how to do that math or science. So striving for self-teaching can often mean that you become less part of that equation, and you're not tutoring them and you're not guiding them through it. You

don't even necessarily know the subject. You're just giving them what they need in order to teach themselves.

The problem with that is that self-teaching is not an on-off switch, they have it or they don't have it. It's kind of a process. Obviously for high school, it's a four-year process. So maybe they can be self-teaching in one area at a time. Maybe they start off in their area of passion. They start self-teaching themselves guitar because they like music so much. And your goal is to try to get them as much self-teaching as possible, so that when they do go on to their career or college, they'll be able to learn what they need to know to be successful in any environment.

And then the 10<sup>th</sup> key is to choose curriculum that is made for home schoolers. And that's the only way that you can really be very successful in self-teaching, when you find a curriculum that's intended for home schoolers. Because if you use a curriculum that was intended originally for a public or private school, that assumes that the teacher already knew the material. If you buy your French curriculum from the local public school, thinking we'll use what the public school does, that assumes you speak French with a degree, and that could be a problem if you don't.

If you buy a curriculum intended for home schoolers, it's going to assume that not only does the child know nothing, but also that the teacher knows nothing, and that will leave you the freedom to either allow your children to self-teach that particular curriculum or to learn alongside them so that you're learning your French at the same time that they're learning their French.

Choosing curriculum intended for home schoolers can increase the success of your home school.

**Ashley:** That's really neat. I never thought about that before. I've worked a little bit with different schools in the last year, working to become a teacher at some point. It's true that they assume that you know it already before you're going to start teaching. And I'm in elementary, so a lot of it is review for me, but if I was in high school, I would be in big trouble.

**Lee:** A world of hurt. That can really help. Choose something that's meant for home schoolers. Another that's very important is to share responsibilities with your spouse and children. Sometimes those responsibilities may be as simple as who sets the table and cleans the dishes and does the laundry and that sort of thing. But other times, you can share responsibilities with your spouse. Perhaps they will take over an area they're interested in, whether it's grading papers or helping with math. It's important to remember that anything that your spouse will do for you will lighten your load as the home school parent.



My husband is actually an engineer, and so you'd think it would make a lot of sense for him to teach the math and science, but his interest was in helping them to learn how to write. So he ended up correcting their English papers. Even though it would have seemed to be he should be teaching the math and science, the fact that he was doing English meant that I didn't have to. That gave me more freedom in my day to do what I needed to do otherwise.

Even if it's not what you wish your spouse would take or what you wish your children would take off your plate, it's still something that's not on your plate. Anything you could do would help.

**Ashley:** I remember my dad would teach me math. Partly because, a lot of times, my mom wouldn't agree. It was my fault. I was like, you're wrong, and the answer's right there on paper. My dad took over that and it's solved a lot of that, as well as it took something from my mom that she didn't have to do.

So it was a nice bonding time for me and my dad as well, because he wasn't involved in every single aspect because he had to go to work and that type of thing as well. And so it was a cool time that he and I could spend one-on-one time together, even if we were doing math and not just hanging out or whatever.

**Lee:** And I don't think you can really over-emphasize the bonding. That's what really raises the quality of individuals in the long-run, the 12 year plan, what do you want the adult to look like when you're all done home schooling. And it's the bonding with the parents that's really going to have the best impact on that.

And then the 12<sup>th</sup> key for success is to invest in yourself. That's something that is so very important for home schoolers to do. So many times when they're buying curriculum, they're thinking about curriculum for their kids, but they also need to be investing in their kids and their own ability to home school each year. What I tell people is that when I was a nurse, I was required to have a certain amount of continuing education courses every year, so I could keep my nursing license. And in the same sort of way, home school parents need to spend some time and effort to attend classes or take courses or read books on home schooling high school. Then when their time comes, and it's their turn to home school high school, they're not going to be all panic-stricken. So you want to make sure that you're investing the time and the money that you need to into your chosen vocation which is home schooling high school, so you can make sure you're doing a good job.

That means conventions, and support group meetings, and then of course the things I have on my website, the [www.TheHomeScholar.com](http://www.TheHomeScholar.com), or the parent training courses. Books on how to make transcripts and course descriptions, and all those things you can learn in advance. So that when you hit senior year, you don't have that moment of panic. That is strangely common for me to get phone calls May of senior year, saying I've got a senior. He's graduating. He wants to go to college. What do we do? And they haven't done anything. At that point, it's really difficult for me to help them at all. It really does need to be something that you plan ahead for, and do your research at least by junior year so you can get things working in the right direction.

**Ashley:** That's a lot of information. Thank you very much. That's a lot of practical tips for our listeners to be able to go ahead and get a start, whether their kids are in elementary school or in the high school area. They can start looking towards that and figuring out what would work best for their home school.

**Lee:** Right. Very good.

I do have some encouragements for people that are afraid, because I think that's something that I deal with the very most. People that feel unable to move forward because they're so afraid of high school. I really consider my job and my mission to take away the fear from people so that they can do what it is they're supposed to do instead of just acting out of fear.

One of the things I do like to point out is the reasons why parents do not have to be afraid of high school. One of those reasons is that the love that parents have for their child can virtually ensure success. Schools do a very good job at what they can do, but they don't have the love for the child that the parent does. So for example, I was getting my hair done one time, and I was listening to these two moms talk. And one mom was just really bemoaning the fact that her son had been placed in the wrong math class. And they had accidentally placed him in a pre-calculus class instead of a pre-algebra class. He was completely lost.

As home schoolers, we feel incapable and incompetent an awful lot. But I can guarantee you there is not a home schooler on the planet that's going to be teaching her child pre-calculus instead of pre-algebra by mistake. It's just literally not going to happen. And a lot of that is the love that they have for their children is going to make sure that it's going to come as close as possible to what that child needs at that stage.

The other thing is that home schooling high school is really just one more developmental stage. It's like when they learn to ride a bike or learn their multiplication tables. It's just the next step in the process. When parents

that have little children, maybe learning to ride a bike without training wheels, you're thinking at the time, my child could die. Even with a helmet, they could get hit by a car. It's very, very scary. And home schooling high school is just like that. Yeah, something could happen.

But it's really not any more scary than when they learn how to ride a bike without training wheels. It's just the next step in the journey of parenting. It's the taking of the next natural step.

But the other thing I like to point out why you don't need to be afraid is there's lots of research out there that shows home school children have better academic preparation. And I know for some parents that's a difficult thing to hear, because their child doesn't score particularly well. That doesn't mean that they have better test scores than any other home school kid. It means that the home schooled child has a better test score than they would have had in a place where they weren't getting that one-to-one tutorial of home schooling. So it has to do with how well they would do among themselves.

And academically, home school parents can provide a real transcript, a real official diploma, and a quality education at home. Just like they would get a real transcript from a high school, you can get a real transcript from your home school as well.

**Ashley:** That's good to know. For me, since I graduated high school through home school, my mom did that. But I think a lot of parents are afraid that their high school won't count for anything. I was the same. I did some testing and credit by examination when I first got out of high school. But I was able to go to college like any other person. My sister as well has been able to go straight to college and have scholarships and things just like that as well.

**Lee:** I think people that it's unusual and Lee did that. Lee's kids were able to get that. But it's not just me. I hear this from all of my home school friends. Good scholarships are out there for all sorts of kids, and it's not just the rigorously academic kids that are going to get them. It's ordinary kids that have the values or the extra curriculums, whatever the college wants to invest in. They can get scholarships too.

**Ashley:** I agree. I have a question I've been asking all of our speakers. And it's, what are you passionate about? What really lights your fire, gets you going?

**Lee:** I really love helping parents home school high school. And actually, I just finished a live webinar that I was doing, and right in the middle of it, I started talking about how parents didn't need to be afraid, and I literally

started crying, and I felt so foolish, because I was getting so excited about helping people and trying to convince them that it's okay, and not to be afraid. So I really do get very excited about helping parents home school high school. I work very hard in my business to try to provide a mix of things, some that are free, others that are more in depth that I sell. I try to make sure I have things for all learning styles for parents, so I have some video formats, some books, some more relational where they can interact with me on a weekly basis, so no matter where they are or what the parents' learning style, they'll still get the help they need.

I think one of the things that frustrates me the most is when I hear others in the home schooling community that are trying to label home schoolers as if they're not doing something that's very important. I remember one time one of the leaders in the home school community, he said, these home schoolers are not doing anything, and people are leading them around by the nose. And I thought, wait a minute, that's not true. They're working hard. Home school parents are home schooling. That's why they're not involved in legislation right now. They're sitting there home schooling their kids every day.

And I think that's where my heart is, remembering what it was like to be in the trenches and working hard at what they were doing. And so that's why I work very hard to make sure that I never judge parents. And I never evaluate children, either. I'm just a friend that will come alongside and support and encourage and give you as much information as I have to make parents successful in the process.

On my website, I have a whole section of freebies. It's the [www.TheHomeScholar.com](http://www.TheHomeScholar.com), and if you go to the menu bar across the top, it says freebies. And I have lots of free things. I have free webinars, and free ebooks, and special reports and mini courses, and all sorts of things to encourage parents. Free web pages on different topics like home schooling through CLEP exams, like you did, just to encourage parents. Fight the good fight, keep it up, don't panic and bail.

**Ashley:** That's really neat. That will be some helpful resources for our listeners to go check out. So do you have different ways that parents can find out the different ideas of home schooling in high school as far as CLEP tests or different ways they can go about getting that college preparation for their child?

**Lee:** Yeah, I do have lots of different ways to get the information. I think that some of the best ways is to become a member of my Gold Care Club, because that has everything under the sun, all in one place. That's one of the services that I provide for people. And it has, when I speak online or at a convention or at a support group, my husband films all those

presentations, and then he puts them all online on this Gold Care Club. So people from around the world can have access to a support group specifically for home schooling high school. It's always on topic. It's never about teaching cursive to a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, because it's all about high school.

I think that's one of the reasons why I have so many military and missionary families that are members, so that they can get the support that they need even from Peru or China or whatever.

**Ashley:** That's really neat. If you could start home schooling all over again, what is one thing you would differently knowing what you know now?

**Lee:** That's a hard question. I try to live my life without regrets. So one of the things is I'm so very glad that I did home school. I'm very glad that I worked hard at what I was doing. I don't have any regrets about the home schooling part per se. I think the one thing that I did that had some negative consequences was the dual enrollment at the Community College. Part of that was academically, the Community College was not nearly as rigorous as my home school. My children, by the time two weeks of school were over, they had read all the books, done all the reports, done everything they could possibly do. So for the first time in their life, they spent the next 6 weeks learning how to do nothing and getting an A for it. And that backfired when they went to the University level and they actually had to work for their grade. It came as a big surprise.

And then there was the social environment of the Community College, which was something we weren't really used to. The inappropriate topics that people would give a speech on in the speech class, and the worldview of the professors. I don't think people really realize how out there some of the Community Colleges can be. At the University level, there's a certain boundary you can't go past. You're supposed to act mature when you're a professor. But at the Community College level, we found they were trying to so hard to appeal to 18-year old men that everything they did was so inappropriate. They were just trying to get the attention of a young man whose hormones were out of control, and they were quite successful, but at the cost of worldviews.

I think that if I could do my life over again, I would not have put my children into dual enrollment. I would have graduated them one year early and sent them to the University a year earlier than I did.

**Ashley:** That's good advice for parents that are thinking or considering what to do for college or possibly a dual enrollment type situation.

I know it's back to school time. do you have any advice on getting started right now? I guess particularly about high school, but just what should a parent do as far as setting their goals and looking at things to help prepare their children?

**Lee:** I think that at the high school level, there's certain things that I like to encourage parents to do. If they have a freshman in high school, I usually will encourage them to look over high school as a high school and try to decide, do they understand what high school is all about for them as the parent. Freshman is a good year for them to learn how to make their transcript, to learn about course descriptions, to learn what classes are important in high school.

For sophomores, I usually will encourage parents to think about starting their foreign language. If it hasn't already been done, starting a foreign language sophomore year can be especially helpful, because then if it doesn't go well, you still have one more year so that you can work out the bugs and still get that two years of foreign language. The other goal I like for parents of sophomores is to encourage their children to take the P-SAT in the fall. That test is really just for fun. There's no negative consequences from taking that test as a 10<sup>th</sup> grader, but it's something you can do to start the process thinking about them and college, about what their goals might be. And it will start the ball rolling for colleges to market to you. And as home schoolers, we're kind of off the grid in terms of colleges. Taking the P-SAT can put your children on the grid.

As they start to get marketing materials from colleges, they might get the college bug. And you as the parent can read those things and think, this college is offering my child \$5K scholarship sight unseen. That's pretty cool.

For juniors, there are certain things that need to take place junior year. For parents that have a junior, I'm a little bit more directive, because junior year is a time when you need to be finding a college that you want to apply to, and there are certain steps juniors have to take to get there. The first step is to take the P-SAT in the fall, that's when it counts for the National Merit Scholarship. The second thing is to go to a college fair. The third thing is to go on college visits. And the fourth thing is to take the P-SAT or SAT for college admission purposes. And all of those things take a bit of time. It's good for them to plan ahead for that.

And for parents that have a senior, for planning purposes, I usually recommend that they try to hit the ground running, starting with the fall of senior year. The first thing they start doing is applying to colleges. Because applying for college is more detailed than many of the other things that we do, and it does include, in most cases, an essay that the

child has to write. And the problem with that essay, and you probably know this as well Ashley, it has to be a technically perfect, self-reflective essay. Technically perfect is very overwhelming. And I had boys, so self-reflective just about put them over the side.

A technically perfect, self-reflective essay doesn't just happen. It does take a lot of time. That's why I encourage parents to hit the ground running in the very first day of senior year, the kids start working at the college admission process. It's kind of like when you do your taxes, and April 15<sup>th</sup> comes around, and it's an immovable, inflexible deadline, and if you get it wrong, it has some monetary consequences. And the same is true for college admission, because the deadlines colleges give you are completely immovable, inflexible deadlines, and if you miss them, you miss out on scholarship money and there's some financial consequences. So it can really help you to hit the ground running senior year.

**Ashley:** Thank you very much. Just as another side note, is there anything in particular you would recommend to elementary or junior high parents to be preparing for high school? I know you talked about continuing education, but anything they should be paying attention to?

**Lee:** I do think it's really helpful for parents, especially by the time they get a 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, or 7<sup>th</sup> grader, that they start thinking about high school and doing a little bit of research, maybe taking my free mini course or something. The reason is so often, like I was mentioning, I see parents panic, maybe 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. They completely panic, and they want to throw in the towel because they're overwhelmed. But if they can start by doing their research for high school in 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, or 7<sup>th</sup> grade, they will never experience that panic. They will bypass it completely. That's the thing I think will help them the most, to plan ahead so they will not be panic-stricken.

The other thing though that junior high, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years, the whole purpose is junior high is really two things. First of all, that's the two years for the kids to get any help in any classes that they don't already understand. It's the time of remedial learning, so if your kids aren't up to grade level and you've been in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade doing remedial work, that's the whole purpose of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. So you're really not behind at all.

The second purpose of junior high is to allow kids that are ready for it that time to do high school level work. So if they are doing high school level work, that's okay too, and you can put that high school level work onto their high school transcript. So the freedom you have in middle school is huge and broad, because you can be working on helping your child with remedial work in maybe the English department, or in the math area, and yet they can still be piercing ahead and doing high school level work in the

history area. Or maybe they're doing a lot of advanced music, or something like that.

And so you really can't mess up in junior high. It's a win-win situation, but it is a really good opportunity for parents to learn about doing high school, so they don't have that moment of panic when they're facing 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Ashley:** That sounds great. Before we wrap up today is there any other advice, words of wisdom you'd like to share, or have we covered most of it?

**Lee:** I think you've totally covered most of it. The only thing that I do like to point out is that it's the next step in home schooling. It's not any more scary. And so I will often bring in that scripture of Jesus changing the water into wine, which is John 2:8-11, if you're interested, and when Jesus is telling his servants about what they have to do to make sure the water gets into wine, what he tells them is maybe first you fill the jars with water, which was completely something they were capable of doing, and then he told them to draw some out, which again the servants were very used to do it, and then he told them to take it to the master, so that he would taste it.

So at no point in that whole changing water into wine did he make the servants grow the grapes, nor did he tell them on the first day of 9<sup>th</sup> grade that you have to teach calculus and physics and complete your transcript and college education. But instead, he was demonstrating that step-by-step approach that we can use as we're home schooling high school. And I encourage parents if they can just do that next step that everything else will work out in the end. And all they have to do is that one step in front of them, and not worry about that 4 years down the road or 6 years down the road.

**Ashley:** That's some great advice. Before we end, can you give us the website one more time so people can get back in touch with you.

**Lee:** Sure. The website is [www.TheHomeScholar.com](http://www.TheHomeScholar.com). And I do have a daily blog, and I blog every day, so if you have a question, you can email me a question, and I'll put that on my blog. I also have free weekly office hours, and I set aside an hour at a time to take calls from panicky parents once a week, and then I have the free mini course on grades and credits to help parents with their transcript, and a free mini course on the five biggest mistakes that home schoolers make home schooling high school. And so you should be able to get lots of resources there. So it's [www.TheHomeScholar.com](http://www.TheHomeScholar.com).



**Ashley:** Thank you very much. We appreciate it. I know I've taken lots of great notes, and I'm sure our listeners have as well. Thank you very much for joining us on the call today.

**Lee:** You're welcome. Thanks for having me, Ashley.

# Resources

**Lee Binz:**

[www.TheHomeScholar.com](http://www.TheHomeScholar.com)

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