



# THE CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL *podcast*

with Paola Ciskanik

# How Jane Austen Helps Build Morals

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With Haley Stewart

Welcome to the Catholic Homeschool Podcast. I'm so glad to have you here today.

My name is Paola Ciskanik, your host. And today's guest is Haley Stewart. And we're going to be talking about Jane Austen and many other things in terms of virtues, teaching our children, the moral compass, so to speak, and using literature as that way to do that, to give the examples to our children.

So, without further ado, hello, Haley. How are you?

**Hello! It's a crazy time cause we're right in the middle of the move, so I'm okay. I'm okay. But it's, it's a stressful season.**

It is, it is. I can't imagine, you know, I think as you said, we'll get into that. You have a new job. You're going to have to move to a whole new state. So, we'll get into all of that because you know, that's an important, that's like life, you know, in the middle of all this. And boy, I'd love to talk about that. Especially in this homeschooling. You know, we could set plans, but life happens first.

**That's right.**

So, before we begin, let me get the official bio read.

And so people who don't know Hayley, let me introduce you to Haley Stewart, as the managing editor now of word on fire spark. She is the author of Jane Austen's Genius Guide to Life. She is also the author of the book, the Grace of Enough. And

the delightful stories, the Sisters Seraphina Mysteries, which is a series for young readers. She also, co-hosts a podcast called Fountains of Carrots and she is married to a whiskey distiller, and they have four children.

Thank you so much Haley for joining us today. You know, I'd love to, before we turned on the podcast here, we were talking a little bit about how in our community, we have the Catholic Homeschool Community. We just started this amazing vibrant group with teens on writing. It's called Catholic Author Teen Group. And I wanted to talk a little bit about first your journey. What was it like as teenage, Haley? Were you interested in writing? Cause I mean, you're prolific now you're going to be managing children and young adults' books. What was your journey?

**Yeah, I was a reader as a teen, but I wasn't a writer yet. So, I didn't hate writing, but I never was the teenager carrying around my notebook, writing down my observations, you know, I wasn't keeping a journal. So, it really wasn't until after college that I really started writing for pleasure. So, I was a good writer in college, but it wasn't a passion, and it really wasn't until our first child was born that I wanted to write about the experience. It was just kind of opened the flood gates of creativity for me. And I found, I discovered writing then. And so, right. As a teen, I didn't even know I would go in that direction. I had no idea, but I knew that I loved literature.**

Yeah. So, where you, that kind... so like, I have a picture of my daughter who was an avid reader who was vacuuming and reading at the same time. So, were you like that kind of, would you say?

**A little bit like that.**

So foundationally, did it set the stage for the kind of writing you would want to do or your styles? How did that in terms of being a voracious reader help?

**Sure. So, I've primarily written non-fiction, which is not my favorite thing to read. So, I've always been a fiction reader, but for a long time, I was a**

nonfiction writer. And then just recently over the past couple of years started writing fiction. And I can definitely tell my fiction, writing voice feels very inspired by a lot of my favorite authors, especially children's book authors. And so, yeah, that's been really fun to discover. So, I think that the lesson there is that you don't have to have always loved writing to end up a writer, end up a good writer. It can be something that you discover over time. And, but with a foundation of really good reading that I think that's, that's just the foundation of everything.

Yeah, exactly. And so that brings to light that whole idea, which is really what we'd like to dive into is, you know, choosing good literature, good books. But before we dive into that, because I think this is so important in terms of people understanding and where your heart is, what drew you, you are a convert to the faith had, how did you get to be a Catholic?

Sure, well that had something to do with books as well. So, my husband and I were like, my husband's father is a Southern Baptist minister. I grew up in a devout Protestant home. And when we were in college, we were in a great books program. And so, we were reading everything from Plato all the way up to 20th century novels. And during that journey, we're reading the early church fathers for the first time. And that was very surprising to us what the early church fathers were saying, because it sounded very, very Catholic and it started to make us very nervous. And so, we read the early church fathers all the way through to the reformers and we thought the reformers are going to make this all make sense to us, but that was not the case.

And so, it was everything from St. Ignatius of Antioch, all the way up to evil and why and Flannery O'Connor, you know, discovering the faith through fiction through these stories, I think was just as powerful as reading the early church fathers. Because something about the power of that story, it just a novel can do something that an essay can't do. That's why it's, that's why it's a novel. It's kind of like a, you can't explain a poem and have it still be a poem.

**So, something about the, these novels that we read by Catholic authors, just something clicked something about grace and something about the faith and the sacraments and all of these things just clicked for us. So, we were very drawn to the faith and then after our first child was born, we, that was what pushed us across the Tiber because we had to get him baptized. So, we had to sign up for RCIA.**

That's so great. I love that. And it's the grace, you know, the grace of children that blessing, you know, is that little tug over, as you said, crossing the Tiber. Well, you know, our, our dear Lord did teach in parables, stories. It's it is, you know, His story central to all of that. I love that, how that worked its way into your hearts and brought you home to the church. Let's dive a little bit into that, you know, the power of literature, the power of story. And how does that really work in terms of, because story has to work in our imagination and let's talk about imagination, story and morality.

**Well, stories are just how we learn. You know, you mentioned parables. So, this is how Jesus taught the disciples, that God knows that our, our hearts and minds are wired for story. That's just simply how we learn as human beings. And so, in order to understand things, especially things that are difficult, things that are complicated and nuanced, we have to have a story. We have to have a narrative to understand those things.**

**And I think when we get into concepts like virtue and morality, that's, that's where novels shine is because we have these characters who have these conundrums and we've got to walk with them to see, are they doing the right thing or are they a good person? Is it, is what they're choosing, making them better? Or is it making them worse? How do we become a good person? What does that, what does that journey like if, if I don't have those virtues? Is it possible to acquire them? What does that look like? So, all of these questions**

**are things that good literature wrestles with and gives us models for understanding.**

Yeah. So, when you say good literature, what do you mean? Because you know, one of those things, we can assume that we've all had a great books education, you know, I, myself was a chemical engineer, you know, I got no literature in my formation. I did have parents who were avid readers and that's what exposed me to beautiful books. But how do you what's good literature, Haley, how do we find that?

**Well, I think as Catholics, we look at two different things. One of them is the quality of the art, the artistic quality of the text. And then from there, we also look at, does this work of art point us towards the transcendental, point us towards what's true and good? And beautiful and for a Catholic that's what great literature is.**

And so, I think, you know, there are books out there that are stylistically beautiful, but maybe don't point us towards the true and the good and the beautiful, but I think great literature is, is what does both. So, these, this is high art. Do you know? It's really beautiful. It doesn't mean it has to be somber. Jane Austen, for instance, she's hilarious. She's very funny, but it's, it's such high quality that as you develop, you develop a taste for it. It's not something that it might not be something that you're really good at recognizing right away until you've kind of delved into it for a while. And then you can recognize it.

I've been putting together a book list of books that spark the imagination, and it's been so interesting as I've been gathering different suggestions and going to the library and looking at books, I can open a book and in three pages, no, Nope, this doesn't belong here. You know, or this, this has, this has potential. I'm going to finish this book. Maybe this is going to go on the book list.

**But I think that's something that you have to develop over time. And if you don't feel like you have it yet, it doesn't mean it's game over for you at all. But my dad didn't start really reading literature until his late forties. And he's very well read now, you know, he just dived in, and he loves it. And so, there's never, it's never too late.**

No, no, absolutely never too late. And also, I just want to, you know, the confidence for our homeschool parents, you don't have to be everything in that sense to you knowing that there are trusted sources, to be able to pick people that you, you know... We'll be looking forward to that list by the way, Haley.

But the thing is, I remember, you know, my family is business of, for years, I got to review books and you're right. I think it's just with practice as well. You know, as practicing your faith, you start to have a discerning eye towards these things, you know, you immediately, especially, I really think the, and I don't know if you've experienced this to authors who write for middle-grade I think are very talented. That's a really hard age, right? For, to, to have truths express, but the language and maturity level, right at that those teen years. Have you found that too?

**Yeah. I think that's a really tricky age and it's, it's, it's a tall order. So, it's no wonder that there's not tons of books for that age group that are classics because it is tough. You can't dive into some of the themes that you could dive into with the novel for grownups, but you, it can't, it still needs a nuance here. They're kids who have they're at the stage where they're going to recognize if it's just a message that's hitting them over the head.**

**They don't want that. You know, it's trying to get that middle. Yeah. That's very, it's a tricky, tricky age.**

It is a tricky age. And I know that again, you also have children and I've had, I found children that were, you know, excelled and reading, you know, and that's another

big thing. You have kids who come to reading early and those who don't and yet, you know, it evens out at the end.

So, but when I had a daughter who was an avid reader, it was, she just didn't have the life experience. You know, what does that have to do with how you read a book, you know, maturity, you know, should we be reading Anna Karenina, you know, even though you can at, you know, 10 years old...

**I think that there are a lot of books that it's wonderful to read them just for the plot, maybe as a young reader, as long as you're going to come back to them. So, for instance, I read Kristin Lavransdatter as like a 12-year-old. I don't know if that was a good idea or not, but you know, I got the plot and I was kind of like, okay, well ho-hum, and then 15 years later, re-read it. And it completely blew my mind. It was one of my top five favorite novels. I read it almost every year, but I needed to come back to it. So, I think that's another thing too. I think it's good to not narrow our kids' reading choices so much that they don't get it. They can't just pick up a book off the shelf and say, well, I want to read Anna Karenina. And I, you know, I think it's, it's okay to let them explore really good literature, you know, within reason for age appropriateness, but then encouraging them that, oh, this is a book you're going to want to come back to. Like you, you you're, you know what happened now. So now when you come back to it in a few years, you're going to see all of the things you didn't see before.**

Yeah. So, life experience, I love how you had said that too. You know, it's this idea of also reading for fun for the fun of it. So, you're not going to necessarily say now do a book report in a PowerPoint presentation and give us all the themes in that book.

**Right. Right. I am very anti book report. I just...**

Me too!

**Yeah, taking notes while you're reading it, unless it's fun for you, unless it's fun for you. Don't ruin the pleasure of being completely engrossed in the book without having to think, oh, what am I going to say in my book report? Yeah. Yeah, exactly.**

So now let's get full fast-forward to Jane Austen, somebody we both love. And I know you just have your new books. So please tell us about the book. What prompted you to do that? Because it's really tying the two things together.

**Sure. So, the book's called Jane Austen's genius guide to life on love friendship and becoming the person God created you to be. So, Jane Austen is one of my favorite authors, love all her novels. And I was exposed to her as a, as a girl, just through the film, adaptations started reading the novels and like, like with Kristin Lavransdatter, loved the plots, loved the characters, loved the humor, but didn't get all of it and then return to the novels in college and actually read them as part of a philosophy class, read all the novels with a philosophy professor.**

**So, we were looking at Austen as a moral philosopher, you know, what is her moral philosophy? What is she saying about virtue and really what makes someone a good person and whether we can become good people. And so that's what I wanted to dive into. Partly because while Austen is so good at writing romance, she's also more than that. I think sometimes she gets dismissed as a novelist for the ladies because she's got swoony heroes, you know?**

**And that's maybe partly the fault of some of the film adaptations, but I think it does her a disservice because there's so much more there as well. And so, I wanted to dive into all of that.**

Yeah. It's hard in film and I'm glad you brought that up because so much of her stories are really, you know, it's, what's going on in her head. Okay. So even though,

you know, how do you translate that without it just being like, you know, over voice voiceovers.

**Right. And some of them, some of the novels have never had a good film adaptation for instance, Mansfield Park. Yes. So much of the novel is happening in Fannie Price's mind that you either have to change your character, which ruins the book or you, you, you just, you just can't do it. There are no good ones. And I don't know that there ever will be because it just wouldn't translate the way that Pride and Prejudice or something like that translates well into a film. But yes, it's true. It's just, you're, you're going to be missing some things.**

Yeah. So, when we talk about the virtues and you know, what do you mean? Can you give me some examples in particular?

**Sure. I think that one of the things that I loved about writing this book is it gave me the opportunity to really learn, to understand some of the virtues that I didn't have a good grasp on before. So, a virtue to like prudence, you know that, that word is used different ways in, in contemporary language, you would, we might use that word differently than a philosopher is using it to talk about the virtue of prudence. And I discovered, I didn't really know what that meant exactly. What does it mean to be prudent? And so, diving in and understanding through Jane Austen's Northanger Abbey, it was, we watched Catherine Morland, who's a young teenager go from her, her folly, her youthful folly to starting to start developing this virtue of prudence and seeing other characters who have maybe cultivated this virtue more than she's looking up to.**

**And so that this virtue is the, this virtue of practical wisdom where we can see clearly what reality is and know how to act rightly based on what's true in a given situation. So that's, that's the tricky part, right? Is in each situation we have to discern again, well, what is the right thing to do here, given the circumstances? And so that's what Catherine doesn't understand how to do. And she's misreading things and she's acting in ways that don't at all fit out, fit what**

she wants to do and wants... she has good intentions, but she just doesn't have the prudence to discern what she needs to. And that's something that takes this maturity that we see her start to develop.

And so, it was really fun diving into these ideas and learning to understand these virtues that I only, I could use them in a sentence, but to really have a deep understanding of them. I had to spend a lot of time with Austen and then with different philosophers, like Joseph Pieper to really understand what these meant and how to try to develop them.

So, Haley, how would you recommend, let's say if that is something, because one of the things, when I coach homeschooling families and part of our discussions in our community has to talk about that, you know, being able to teach, you know, you can come up with a laundry list as you say of the virtues, but what, what are some practical ways that we do this? Is it about our first... and, you know, we get educated ourselves and then we pass this on to our children or are we using literature as that vehicle?

Yeah. I mean, I think it's of course the way that we model virtue for our children is probably going to be the most important thing in their lives, which is a little scary. But I think that literature helps us have these shared narratives to discuss these ideas. And so, for instance, the other day, my 13-year-old son, he just wanted to talk about Mr. Collins, for some reason, from Pride and Prejudice. He was like, you know, I don't, I don't think he's, I don't think he has bad intentions. I don't know if I, I wouldn't call him a villain, but what is, what would you say is his flaw?

You know, what's his deal? So, we talked about that and bounced ideas around. What makes Mr. Collins so insufferable and yet not, not a terrible villain? And so just talking about those different things and you have conversations about, you know, someone can be well-intentioned and still heard other people are frustrated other people. And what does that mean? What, or how do our

intentions play in? And then that's not the only thing that matters though, how we, how we behave no matter how well-intentioned matters too. And so having those conversations, it gives us a language to talk about these things.

I remember when I was probably 12 and my older brother was 17 or 18, we were watching Emma, the Gwyneth Paltrow version. And there's a little minute of dialogue. That's not in the books but is consistent with the story where the main character has just insulted a kind of irritating spinster of the community and the hero Mr. Knightley notices this and is distressed that she has humiliated this woman. And so, he invites the spinster. He says, would you do me the honor of picking strawberries with me to remove her from this humiliating circumstance?

And my older brother said, gosh, Mr. Knightley always knows the right thing to do. You know, it's not like he wanted to go strawberry picking with this old lady, but he knew this was not right. I can step in and make things, improve the circumstances for this woman, it's the right thing to do. So, I'm going to do it. And just having that exemplar to see that, that perfect example of prudence knowing here's the right thing to do in this situation. And then being able to do it, that just helps form our imaginations of how we ought to behave in a way that just talking about prudence and explaining what it is could never do.

Yeah. So, it's not so much, like we have to learn these virtues through hard knocks so we can experience some, I love how you just gave that story about you and your son.

I mean, you had a shared language, isn't that what stories do in a family, the kind of become like family members.

Absolutely. And I think that is such an important piece of developing your family culture and developing those relationships. Being able to make references

**to stuff you've read together. It's like an inside joke that makes you feel like part of the family. And I think that's really, really crucial in family life.**

Yeah. I know. I know so much of it came from the years that we did read alouds and one of the things people tend to do, especially as they get to the middle school years and teen years, is that like, well, they're reading on their own. We do read alouds for little kids. You know, I love the scene. How even just in Brideshead Revisited, the mother is reading the Father Brown, you know, to adults.

**Yeah. I love that. I feel like that's something that as culturally, we've kind of lost that as a pastime because it's easier to put on a movie, which I, I understand I'm tired in the evening I couldn't do that all the time.**

Yes, I do. And sometimes rarely is the movie better than the book. I mean, I know we just started, we did the, Around the Earth and 80 Days, new PBS series, you know. And, and All Creatures Great and Small, you know. But...

### **Love All Creatures Great and Small.**

So sometimes it can open the door, I think, to that as well. And like you said, with Jane Austen, so often it's many of our young men feel intimidated that it's just a girly story.

**I think the way to, to help male readers dive in, I think what's helpful is emphasizing Austen's humor. That, you know, you're going to come upon these characters that just seem wacky and it's because they are, and you're supposed to laugh, you know, get ready to laugh and enjoy yourself.**

**Because I think that sometimes she's presented as kind of like a somber serious author. And she's simply not, I mean, there's serious moments, there's serious themes, but it's, it's comical. I mean, it's so funny. And I think that setting, setting readers up for that reality, I think makes it a little bit less intimidating.**

Yeah. I think... you know, I have my teenage boys do Emma, you know, has that first introduction because Emma is, is really, and in many ways I think she's so she's so relatable to that age.

**Absolutely she is. To my shame. She's the heroine that I, I most identify with.**

Same here! Same here, Haley. She really is so much so that it's funny. Our family dog was named Emma, which is really paying homage to that. So great. I want, before we leave, and these are wonderful, precious gems that we pass on to our families that are homeschooling, because they're, you know, we both have this love of literature. I, myself as I said, you know, I was, went into a scientific background and it was devoid of any kind of literature. So, I was New York city kid. I would read those books and I'd get like the study guides. Cause I had nobody to discuss it with. Is there, is there going to be any guides, any help, anything you have for parents? I noticed with the book, there is a guide.

**Yeah. Yeah. So, I, there's a couple of resources in the back of the book. I have little summaries and character sketches for each novel. Just so if it's been awhile since you read Austen, or maybe you haven't read Austen, or you haven't read all of them, you don't feel like you can't read the book, you know, it's, it's going to be there to, to fill you in. And then I've also created a resource that you can download for free from Ave Maria press's website called a year with Jane Austen. And it's kind of just set up to help you read Austen six novels. So, there's discussion questions and just ideas for, for reading. So that would be a great resource.**

**If you're thinking about reading with your kids or doing a little Jane Austen book club, that it's all, it's all ready to go for you.**

And so again, it's just about the springboard of the really important conversations we should be having with our children. So, you have a new move, you have a new job. Can you tell me a little bit about your new job? I'm really excited for you.

I am so excited too. So, I'm loving it. At the end of January, I started working as the managing editor of Word on Fire Spark, which is word on fire publishing's new imprint for young readers. So, I am commissioning books for children working with authors and illustrators. It is absolute dream job, just so fun. So exciting. So, diving into that, and then we're also moving across the country because my husband got offered a new job, then we're moving closer to grandparents. So, there's a lot of, lot of changes for the Stewart household this year.

Yeah. So, tell us, so one of the things, and again, I mentioned it, the elephant in the room is this, you know, Haley, you did homeschool your children. And there was a big change this past year. Want to tell us a little bit about that too, and that journey?

Absolutely. So, we homeschooled from day one, all of the kids. And then we're just noticing that our oldest who's 13 this year just needed a change. So, we were just seeing some things with his education and just dynamics that he just needs something different, a different environment. And we were so lucky to have an incredible Catholic classical school right up the road with Dominican sisters. And it's just been wonderful. So, we put him in school, but we were homeschooling our daughters. And my husband had actually gone back to part-time because I was writing full-time so that he could do a lot of the homeschooling and then I'd supplement a little bit.

And then we just thought that it was time for the girls to also go to this classical school, partly because we'd been so happy with how our son was thriving there, but also partly because over the past couple years, homeschooling was so much more difficult without being able to do as many in-person things. You know, I just felt like our whole groove had been thrown off and shifted a lot. And we thought, well, we can either shake things up with

our homeschool day or we can try this. And so, we decided to, to send them to school this year and it has been great.

So, it's been so interesting because I call us, we were lazy Homeschoolers is what I, what I think. But part of it was just our model for educating our kids was primarily reading, just helping them to become big readers, to be exposed to good books and just read and read and read and do math on the side. And then everything else was icing on the cake. You know, we do nature walks and we do field trips, and we'd cook together and talk about history and things. But the only there wasn't a lot of structure because we just wanted to talk to our kids and read with them and make sure they were up to scratch with math.

And so, it was interesting. Cause I didn't know, you know, as someone who had always just homeschooled, well, how are they going to do in more traditional classroom? Are they going to be able to do this? Are they going to be behind? Are they going to be bored or, you know, and so it was very affirming to see that yeah, they could just jump right in, even though we hadn't done things in a very structured way, we had still been able to prepare them in a way to be successful in school.

So that was, I think that just encouragement to anyone homeschooling who's feeling insecure, That It's probably fine, you know, just the, what you're offering at home, it's so different than the classroom that, and it can be done well in so many different ways to, to lean into the way that works for your family.

You know what, you're good at the way that what you're passionate about, that if you lean into that, then they're going to be able to transition into something different with that foundation. So, it was in some ways just really affirming to see like, oh, I didn't mess them up, you know?

Which is always the thing that we parents, you know, I mean, feel all the time, second guessing ourselves because it is a big, huge responsibility. Most of us come

with zero experience. Like what is it supposed to look like? But I'd love to Haley what you did was you articulated that you and your husband sat together and defined your educational goals. Isn't that really at the heart of it, whatever decision we make.

**Right. And really, we, we wanted, we wanted to prepare our children to be successful adults someday, but primarily we wanted to them to love to learn. And so, when you start there, it's just kind of, it's a different perspective and it's been interesting, like one of our children's teachers wrote me an email and just said, your daughter just, she loves, she's so excited about learning, which just made me so happy that that goal had been achieved. So, so yeah, it's been a great transition for us. It wasn't something that we really expected, but it was, seemed like what needed to happen for oldest. And then things just kind of fell into place for a different kind of day for our household.**

**And, and it's been great. And sometimes people have said like, well, do you regret not sending them earlier? And really, I, I don't, it was, it was wonderful that really the hardest decision was whether we were going to send our youngest, because I just, I love those years of reading picture books and going to the library and going to the zoo and the park before you even feel like you need to do anything structured.**

**But when we thought about just having her at home, she's used to having three playmates all day, that that would be probably a harder transition for her then trying out a classroom and it has been great. So yeah, I think it's one of those things that you just discern each year, you need to take a year off. You could always go back to homeschooling.**

Yeah, never cast in stone that this is irreversible, but also what I loved, you said about it too, was about the community, the culture. So, the family itself has a culture. You know, it would have been, as you said, you, as the parents

communicating and thinking what's best for each individual child and that stage and looking at them within your family, that was beautiful. Haley.

So, you are going to be, well, two questions. One was when are we going to start to see some children's books and from spark? And then two, where where can we find you and learn about you and all those updates?

**Sure. So personally, I have the first two books in a children's book series coming out this fall from Pauline. So, they're called the Sister Seraphina Mysteries. They're about a little order of mouse nuns who live underneath GK Chesterton's house in Beaconsfield. And they run a little school and solve local crimes inspired by Father Brown. So those are coming out in the fall. And then our first books from Spark, from Word on Fire Spark, we'll be releasing in 2023. So, keep an eye out for those. We're very excited.**

Sister Seraphina story, and I'm sorry to interrupt, but that was like one of those writer, like it came to me in a dream kind of thing. And so, I just...

**Yes! It was weird because I don't usually get writing ideas in dreams. That is not my MO, but I had a dream about these little mouse nuns who lived on under GK Chesterton's house. So, I had no choice, but to, to write the story.**

So delightful, we can't miss that little point. So great. So, then you were saying? Sorry!

**Yeah, you can find me on, on social media, on Twitter and Instagram, I'm @Haleycarrots, H A L E Y carrots like Anne of green Gables. And then you can, I have a blog that I never write in anymore called carrotsformichaelmas.com, but I'm never there anymore. So, you can find me on social media and then on the fountains of carrots podcast.**

Wonderful. Well, we will put all those links below this video, really, really. I wanted to thank you so much, Haley for spending time with me, as you said, you probably got

this long list of things you have to do before you're moving across the country. I really, really wanted to be able to share with our audience, the beauty of literature. Thank you. You did that so much for us. I want to bless you for the work you're doing. Keep us posted, please do on all the new releases, things that you're doing.

**Absolutely! Thank you so much!**

Any parting words for our people here, Haley, anything you want to leave us with?

**I think just to, I think that inspired by Jane Austen, just enjoying literature, just seeing that as that, that's, that's a goal that just being able to enjoy it and not think about the vocabulary and your all, all of these little pieces that benefit our kids' education and are great, but just teaching them to enjoy, I think is, is just that's the goal.**

Yeah. I see the joy. And as you said, the joy spread to your children and our families will see that too. So thank you for sharing that Haley.

**Thanks so much for having me.**

Great. Well, thank you everybody for watching and please do join the Catholic Homeschool Community. That's where you'll see me, and you'll see this. The podcast will be on all our channels.

Share it with your friends. We want to encourage you again to know that you, you are loved by God and God loves your children infinitely more than even you. And you've got this.

So, thanks again. And may God bless you abundantly.