

SAYING GOODBYE

WHEN PEOPLE LEAVE YOUR CONGREGATION

Acknowledge my loss

What have I lost through their leaving? (consider obvious things like friendship, ministry partnership, ministry work. But also not so obvious like: trust, ability to continue to open my heart, courage, etc).

How have I thanked God for their investment?

Thank you, Lord, for _____

Thank you for the ways they have invested in my life and the life of the church.

Have I thanked them, personally and out loud, for their investment in us and our congregation? What is preventing me from doing this? _____

Have I confessed any bitterness that has resulted from their leaving? What is preventing me from taking ownership/responsibility for my own sin and confessing it? What do I hope to gain by holding on to it?

Have I badmouthed them in the presence of others? Do I need to take this before the Lord and surrender it, allowing Him to be my Defender? _____

Write out a "Go in peace" prayer for these believers. It may not feel 100% authentic, but sometimes as we walk in obedience, God will change our feelings towards our "enemies". Ask the Lord to give you a loving heart towards them. _____

