



(SLIDE #1) AS YOU LEAVE!

Introduction:

A. "Leaving" Can Bring Many Emotions!

1. Joy!
2. Sadness!
3. An empty hole in your heart.

B. Study Of The Phrase "As You":

1. Am. 5:14 "Seek good and not evil, That you may live; So the LORD God of hosts will be with you, As you have spoken."
2. Mt. 26:39 "He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, 'O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will*.'"
3. Phil. 2:12 "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;"
4. Col. 2:6,7 "As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

C. Today:

1. **(Slide #2)** Congratulations to our graduates! **(Slide #3)** We have numerous graduates from High School and from College!
2. Encouragements To Our Graduates:

I. (Slide #4) As You Leave Be:

A. (►) **A Christian!**

1. If you are old enough to graduate, you are old enough to be introspective, to see your heart, to see your sin, and to realize your need for Jesus Christ!

2. If you are a Christian, rejoice that you have made that decision!
3. You may have made all kinds of preparation for the future; however, if you are not a Christian, you are not prepared for life, for uncertainties that surely lie ahead, for mind-shattering attacks on your values, and for eternity!
4. If you are NOT a Christian, you need to realize the MOST IMPORTANT essential to help you face every situation in life -- JESUS CHRIST!
5. Just as Israel needed the blood at the 10th Plague, you need the Blood Of Christ in your life; as the song says, "When I See The Blood, I Will Pass Over You!"
6. Phil 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
7. A reminder: your life is QUICKLY passing; you just don't realize how fast it is

B. (▶) Righteous!

1. Lk. 6:31 "And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise."
2. Treat others as you would want them to treat you!
3. Be honest, be kind, be considerate, be fair, and be trustworthy!
4. The world of 2019 is SO focused upon self -- "What **I** think; What **I** want!" People are SO hateful, SO mean, and SO impatient!

C. (▶) Honorable!

1. Honor God!
 - a. NEVER dishonor Him!
 - b. Consider all He has already done for you.
2. Honor your parents
 - a. Show your respect for them.
 - b. Consider their sacrifices and assistance to help you get to this point in life!
3. Honor yourself!
 - a. Live in a way that causes others to respect you!
 - b. Be careful how you speak, how you act, what you say and do on Social Media -- Oh how you can dishonor yourself!

4. Honor Washington Avenue!
 - a. Show respect for the people in this congregation.
 - b. Appreciate their faith, their encouragement, and their devotion to God!
5. Scriptures:
 - a. Rom. 12:10 “*Be* kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;”
 - b. I Pet. 2:17 “Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”

D. (▶) Godly!

1. Imitate the godliness, integrity, and respect for others that Joseph exhibited! Gen. 39:7-12
2. Imitate the faith, courage, trust in God, and preparation for his life to be used by God that you see in Joshua!
 - a. Nu. 14:8,9 “If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’ ⁹Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they *are* our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD *is* with us. Do not fear them.”
 - b. God used Joshua to lead Israel to the “Promised Land.” Dt. 1:38; 3:28
3. Have the undaunted courage of David when facing a lion, a bear, or the giant Goliath! I Sa. 17:34-36. Surround yourself with great friends (like Jonathan, I Sa. 18-20); have an obedient heart; have a penitent heart; let God describe you as a person “after God’s own heart.” Ac. 13:22
4. I Tim. 4:12 “be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”

II. (Slide #5) As You Leave Don’t Be:

A. (▶) A Prodigal!

1. Lk. 15:11-32
2. Don’t waste money, time, or your life!
3. Obey when AWAY just as you would if you were to STAY!

B. (▶) Open To Unwise Advice!

1. Rehoboam listened to the advice of foolish, young men; he did not pay attention to the wise advice of the older men! I Ki. 12:6-15

- a. II Chr. 10:8 “But he rejected the advice which the elders had given him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with him, who stood before him.”
 - b. Be careful! Weigh advice very carefully!
 - 2. Weigh everything by God’s Standard!
- C. (▶) Swayed By Deceivers!
- 1. Don’t let people sway or deceive your heart!
 - 2. Col. 2:8 “Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.”
 - 3. Col. 2:18 “Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,”

Conclusion:

- A. For Those Of You Who Graduated In The Past, How Have You Been Doing?
 - 1. Is God pleased?
 - 2. Are you staying close to God?
- B. (Slide #5) As You Leave: (▶) “Take The Name Of Jesus With You!”

Verse 1:

“Take the name of Jesus with you,
 Child of sorrow and of woe.
 It will joy and comfort give you,
 Take it then where’er you go.

Refrain:

Precious name, O how sweet!
 Hope of earth and joy of heaven;
 Precious name, O how sweet!
 Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

Verse 2:

Take the name of Jesus ever,
As a shield from every snare.
If temptations round you gather,
Breathe that holy name in prayer.

Refrain:

Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven;
Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

Verse 3:

Oh, the precious name of Jesus,
How it thrills our souls with joy;
All the favor of the Father
In this name we may enjoy.
Refrain:

Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven;
Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

Verse 4:

At the name of Jesus bowing,
Falling prostrate at His feet,
Claim His vict'ry over evil
And the enemy defeat.

Refrain:

Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven;
Precious name, O how sweet!
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.”

Lyrics: Lydia Odell Baxter (1809-1874)
Music: William Howard Doane (1832-1915)

C. As You Leave: "If Jesus Goes With Me, I'll Go Anywhere!"

Verse 1:

"It may be in the valley, where countless dangers hide;
It may be in the sunshine that I, in peace, abide;
But this one thing I know—if it be dark or fair,
If Jesus is with me, I'll go anywhere!

Chorus:

If Jesus goes with me, I'll go Anywhere!
'Tis heaven to me,
Where'er I may be,
If He is there!
I count it a privilege here,
His cross to bear,
If Jesus goes with me,
I'll go Anywhere!

Verse 2:

It may be I must carry the blessed Word of life
Across the burning deserts to those in sinful strife;
And tho' it be my lot to bear my colors there,
If Jesus goes with me,
I'll go anywhere!

Chorus:

If Jesus goes with me, I'll go Anywhere!
'Tis heaven to me,
Where'er I may be,
If He is there!
I count it a privilege here,
His cross to bear,
If Jesus goes with me,
I'll go Anywhere!

Verse 3:

But if it be my portion to bear my cross at home,
While others bear their burdens beyond the billow's foam,
I'll prove my faith in Him--confess His judgments fair,
And, if He stays with me,
I'll stay anywhere!

Chorus:

If Jesus goes with me, I'll go Anywhere!
'Tis heaven to me,
Where'er I may be,
If He is there!
I count it a privilege here,
His cross to bear,
If Jesus goes with me,
I'll go Anywhere!

Verse 4:

It is not mine to question the judgments of my Lord,
It is but mine to follow the leadings of His Word;
But if to go or stay, or whether here or there,
I'll be, with my Savior,
Content anywhere!

Chorus:

If Jesus goes with me, I'll go Anywhere!
'Tis heaven to me,
Where'er I may be,
If He is there!
I count it a privilege here,
His cross to bear,
If Jesus goes with me,
I'll go Anywhere!"

Author and music: C. Austin Miles (1908)

D. As You Leave: "Anywhere With Jesus"

Verse 1:

"Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go,
Anywhere He leads me in this world below;
Anywhere without Him dearest joys would fade;
Anywhere with Jesus I am not afraid.

Refrain

Anywhere, anywhere! Fear I cannot know;
Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.

Verse 2:

Anywhere with Jesus I am not alone;
Other friends may fail me, He is still my own;
Though His hand may lead me over drearest ways,
Anywhere with Jesus is a house of praise.

Refrain

Anywhere, anywhere! Fear I cannot know;
Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.

Verse 3:

Anywhere with Jesus I can go to sleep,
When the darkening shadows round about me creep,
Knowing I shall waken nevermore to roam;
Anywhere with Jesus will be home, sweet home.

Refrain

Anywhere, anywhere! Fear I cannot know;
Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.”

Author: Jessie Brown Pounds (1887)

Music: Daniel Brink Towner (1850-1919)