

Godly Good~Byes



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The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface. In the upper right, there is a close-up of a wristwatch with a black face and white markings. Below the watch, a black pen lies diagonally across the frame. To the left of the pen, there is a piece of white paper or a notepad with some handwritten text in black ink, which is partially obscured by the pen and the watch.

Why Godly Good-Byes?

- Who really wants to say good-bye?
- What's the pattern in Scripture for people who leave their communities of faith?
- What does God desire from those moving on
those staying behind?
- Gospel understanding – God sends to multiply
kingdom work

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Acknowledge Your Grief

- No one likes to say good-bye to the people they but it is a part of life – especially in Cold Lake!
- If you're not affected by people leaving, you're living in biblical community
- It's ok to be sad!
- Don't suppress your grief – it robs you and the other person of relational health, facing reality and re-engaging in biblical community

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Acts 20:36-38 (Paul leaves Ephesus)

³⁶ And when he had said these things, he knelt and prayed with them all. ³⁷ And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul kissed him, ³⁸ being sorrowful most of all because the word he had spoken, that they would not see face again. And they accompanied him to the

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- For Christians grief is coupled with celebration we will meet again!

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Seek the Welfare of the City

- You are not just moving to take a job or live where. You are being sent...
- God sends his people to “be fruitful and
- Jeremiah 29:4-7 back story
 - Israel in exile in Babylon
 - Babylonian strategy – take all the professionals and leave the riff-raff and the poor behind
 - False prophets saying the people will be back in 2
 - Jeremiah sends a letter to the Jews in Babylon

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Jeremiah 29:4-7

⁴ “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. ⁶ Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, they may bear sons and daughters; multiply and do not decrease. ⁷ But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will your welfare.”

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Seek the Welfare of the City

- You are not just moving to take a job or live where. You are being sent...
- God sends his people to “be fruitful and
- Jeremiah 29:4-7
- God’s desire was for his people to be a blessing
- Learn to love the place you are in
- Pray for the city you live in
- Foreshadow of how Christianity would spread
- Seeking first the Kingdom of God

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Intentionally Pursue Discipleship

- Look for a new body of believers that desire to glorify God
- Engage in biblical community
- God began a work in you here and he wants to continue...
- Philippians 1:6... And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

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Sent with a Blessing

- Paul & Barnabas sent from Antioch (Acts 13)
- Laid hands on them, prayed for them and them
- **Grieve well**
- **Seek the welfare of the city**
- **Pursue discipleship**

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