

PARENT'S GUIDE: MINISTRY TRANSITIONS



Transitions can be difficult for all of us. This is especially true when we feel like we are losing something or losing someone. Moving, changing schools, starting a new job, grieving a death, and saying "see you later" to friends, family, and mentors are difficult.

When a pastor/minister transitions to a new place of ministry it can be difficult for those who have been impacted by their life and teaching. This guide is intended to help you, as a parental figure in a child's life, lead your child through a ministry transition.

THE STORY

STICK TO THE FACTS

Whenever there is a transition in ministry, it is important that you stick with the facts. It's really easy to make up your own story or interpretation of events. But what is most helpful is to simply speak about what you know to be true. As you help your child learn about the upcoming departure of a minister share with them what you know are facts.

ASKING QUESTIONS

TALK AND LISTEN TO YOUR KIDS

Ask your kids how they feel. Listen to them as they share their emotions. Pray with them about their questions.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

MALLORY'S NEW ADVENTURE

Mallory has enjoyed building relationships with the people of Lebanon Christian Church. Her relationships with kids, their families, and her volunteers are ones she greatly treasures. We are deeply grateful for her faithful service. She has loved so well. Her joy, integrity, creativity, and love for God have been a tremendous blessing to our church family.

As much as Mallory loves LCC, she has a burning desire to serve alongside her husband in ministry. Since their wedding, Mallory and Caleb have been serving two separate church families and communities. It is a priority for them to be able to serve together. And while Mallory loves to see children trust and follow Jesus, she also deeply loves to worship God and lead his people to His throne through music. God is using her passion for music and her talent of singing to help others worship God in this next season of life.



1 HAVE THE HARD CONVERSATION

Let your child know that you have something difficult to tell them. Share as clearly and succinctly as possible about Mallory's decision to follow God in a new direction. Use the details listed in "Mallory's New Adventure."



2 REMIND THEM OF THE TRUTH

Remind your child that Jesus, Paul, and others moved from town to town serving God and helping as many people as they could. Ministry transitions are a part of life in God's Kingdom. (1 COR. 3:6-9)



3 PRAY AND ENCOURAGE

Pray regularly with your kids for Mallory's future and the children's ministry, and the next children's minister. Pray for God to help many kids trust and follow Jesus. Encourage your children to remain faithful.