

Graduate Benediction

Today, you stand in a doorway. Behind you is the place where you learned your ABC's, sang "Jesus Loves Me", fell and skinned your knee, wrote your first report, passed a note in class and got caught, survived the awkward years of middle school, got your license, and learned from the good, the bad and the ugly of dating!

God entered into all of those moments with you.

In front of you is the place you have been dreaming of. It's the independence and adventure that keep calling your name, (and probably are making your parents crazy!). It's the place where you will develop your skills and talents, and discover new possibilities. It is my prayer that you will allow God to enter this place with you, too. If you invite him to cross this threshold with you:

He will *intersect* your daily living with a divine purpose, showing you how to live for him in the smallest things.

He will *interrupt* your busy schedule and challenge you to make time for him and his plans for your life.

He will *intercept* you when you head down a dangerous path and beckon you to follow him home.

He will give you frequent *intermissions* from life's performance so you can catch your breath, get a snack and refresh your soul.

He will *intercede* for you in the moments when you've lost hope and feel your world crumbling around you.

He will *interfere* with your priorities and shape your legacy as a humble giver, a risk-taker and an agent of mercy.

He will remind you that he longs to *interact* with the beautiful and the mundane things of your life – the deep stuff, the hard stuff and the "laugh til your stomach aches" stuff.

He will stop you often at *intervals* along your journey and show you how he has been *interwoven* throughout the fabric of your life.

He will *interlink* your every moment, and be the strength mingled among your joys and pains.

So let him enter into this new place with you. Follow Christ with determination and desire. Do these things, and you will have life. The best life.