

*If You've Left the Church...*

# 25 THINGS TO SAY TO A BELIEVING LOVED ONE

- 1) I love you.
- 2) We can believe different things and still be close.
- 3) I trust you to do what is best for you.
- 4) I want you to be happy.
- 5) What can I do to support you right now?
- 6) I know you don't take your religious commitments lightly.
- 7) I respect your integrity and your strength.
- 8) You will always have a place here, no matter what.
- 9) I can't imagine how hard this has been for you.
- 10) Tell me more about your journey (and then really listen).
- 11) I'd love to continue to pray with the family.
- 12) You have legitimate reasons for staying active in the Church.
- 13) The world needs more people like you.
- 14) If anyone asks me about your belief in the Church, I'll tell him or her to talk to you directly.
- 15) Your relationship with the Church has nothing to do with our relationship.
- 16) My love for you is constant and unconditional.
- 17) Even though I don't believe in the Church, I believe you when you say you do know it's true.
- 18) You're a good parent, son, daughter, etc.
- 19) You are a good person.
- 20) I'm not worried about you.
- 21) We all have our own unique paths.
- 22) Agency is an amazing gift.
- 23) I don't understand why you stay, but I want to understand.
- 24) I don't know what to say.
- 25) I am here for you.

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