



# HOSTING A TEXAS BIBLE INSTITUTE COMMENCEMENT

## **What's Needed:**

- A six-foot table on the stage for diplomas
- TBI tablecloth or solid navy, red, or white covering
- Reserved chairs on the front row for the graduates
- Reserved seats for the graduates' guests
- Two microphones
- TBI PowerPoint
- Three people on the stage: The MC, pastor, diploma assistant.
- A suggested script is included on p. 30-31.
- Two ushers to help the ladies up and down the stairs
- Photographer and Videographer (Optional)
- Musical selections and official tone of the script can be revised.
- Each diploma comes with a protective cardstock cover.

*On the next page, please find a suggested twenty-minute presentation for twelve students. Additional time should be considered to accommodate larger graduating classes. A rehearsal is recommended and can be finished in thirty minutes by presetting tape on the floor as a marker for each student as they exit the stage. Request church attire.*

# Texas Bible Institute Commencement

## Opening Song Praise and Worship Team

### **Welcome** *[MC or Church Leader]*

Hello. We have gathered to celebrate the dedication of twelve special students as they have completed the requirements set forth by Texas Bible Institute. This is a celebration, not a starchy event, so let's warmly welcome our special guests. I present to you the candidates for graduation from Texas Bible Institute.

*[Congregation is clapping, but remain seated.]*

### **Processional**

"Pomps and Circumstances" by Edward Elgar

*[Students walk down the aisle alphabetically by last name to their reserved seats but remain standing until all have arrived.]*

### **Opening Remarks** *[MC or Church Leader]*

Hello, TBI students, soon-to-be TBI Alumni! You are surrounded by friends and family today, and we are all rejoicing over what today represents. Way to go! Let's remember why we have gathered as I read this powerful promise from God's Word.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Jn. 3:16

You may be seated.

### **Texas Bible Institute History**

Texas Bible Institute was founded in 1990 by Pastors Tommy and Rachel Burchfield of Burchfield Ministries International in Columbus, Texas. The purpose of this Bible School program is to create a love for God's Word and teach the biblical foundations needed to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

The importance of a firm foundation is seen throughout Scripture. In Luke 6, Jesus told us to build our lives upon the Rock so we would be storm-proof. Not storm-free, but storm-proof. Did you know that Jesus is that Rock? The Apostle Paul explained in I Corinthians 3:11 that Jesus Christ is the only foundation worth building our lives upon. Let's all renew our hearts today to let God's Word remain the guiding light and foundation of our lives. Amen?

We would like to turn our attention, for a moment, towards the 6,000 TBI Alumni who have been shining for the Lord all over the world for over three decades. If there are any TBI Alum with us today, or you're related to a TBI Alum, would you please stand and remain standing while \_\_\_\_\_ comes to pray for you and your TBI family. TBI Alumni now represent 39 states and 42 nations and are serving the Lord in every possible strata of society. They need our prayers, and our prayers make a difference.

### **Prayer for TBI Alums** *[Prayer Leader or TBI Alum prays]*

# Texas Bible Institute Commencement

## **Words of Thanks | TBI Group Survey** *[Optional]*

*[This is a brief moment for the Group Contact to say thank you to those who have assisted her/him and share some interesting facts about a few students such as "she works two jobs and still made time for TBI, he missed a lot of class due to travel, but still passed every quiz."]*

## **Student Testimonies** *[Optional]*

Select a few to share "What Jesus taught me through TBI."

## **Diploma Prep** *[MC or Church Leader]*

"Will the candidates for graduation please prepare for the conferral of diplomas."

*[Background music begins. TBI used "Pomp and Circumstances" again.]*

*[All students will walk towards the side of the stage and remain there until their name is called.]*

*Move the TBI diploma table to center stage.*

*Move the pulpit to stage left for the MC.*

*The pastor will stand in front of the table.*

*The assistant stands behind the table.*

*Two ushers approach each side of the stage*

*Background music is optional*

## **Conferring of Diplomas** *[MC | Pastor | Table assistant]*

*[The MC will call out each student's name as they walk from stage left to right. The assistant will hand the closed diploma to the pastor, who will shake right hands as he gives the diploma with his left hand. Upon exiting the stage, it is recommended to have the students stand in the altar area facing the congregation and display their diplomas while the other students eventually join them.] Music stops.*

## **Closing Remarks and Prayer of Blessing** *[Pastor]*

Students, please turn towards me and close your diplomas as I release a Blessing over you."

*[The pastor gives closing remarks and prays.]*

## **MC: Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my distinct pleasure to present to you the Texas Bible Institute graduates.**

*[Recessional music of choice begins. Students are still standing in front of the congregation. They will exit to the music.]*

Recessional - "Hallelujah Chorus" By George Frideric Handel

## **MC:** *[Praise Team enters the stage]*

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We are all inspired by the faith of these graduates.

Please stand as we close (or continue with our service) with a song of celebration. *[Either the graduates will return to sit with their families for the remainder of the service or be invited to return for a group photo before the reception.]*

*[Announcements- Group photo, TBI Reception]*

**Tip! Organize a group photo immediately after the service. People scatter quickly.**

***After you've set your status to "Complete,"  
please upload a group photo to your TBI  
Dashboard in the Commencement settings.***

**Well done, thou good and faithful TBI Group Contact!**

