

**AN INTRODUCTION TO
TEN SIMPLE THINGS TO REMEMBER
WHEN WE HONOR THOSE
WHOM WE LOVE.**



It will be difficult for us to recapture the feelings of worship in the last two weeks. Just prior to the sermon time on August 10, Lauren Yee sang a tender solo of “Pie Jesu” from Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Requiem.” The congregation was still and thoughtful as she brought the music to a close.

The first five simple things: **“Truth,” “Reconciliation,” “Seasons of Life,” “Faith” and “Hope”** were discussed on August 10. The remaining simple things: **“Love,” “Holy Spirit,” “Christ,” “God,” and “Prayer”** were discussed on August 17.

Members of the congregation eagerly volunteered to read scripture, and some of the scriptures we read were treasured favorites.

The yellow sheets of notes that are attached to this introduction are an outline of some scriptures that I assembled for a memorial service in which the family struggled to decide what was important to remember. They looked for the words to express their feelings. They said, sheepishly, that they didn’t know the Bible very well, but had always considered themselves religious in a broad way.

I wanted them to be ok with that since I believe that scriptures are an invitation to faith, and religion is not a body of information or a Bible quiz show. Instead faith is our positive response to the invitation to a lifetime of relationships with God and people, that ebb and flow like the tides. Love is

not the words we say, but the feelings with which we express them, and the ways in which we are able to put loving thoughts into action.

We were saved in our search for the right words for the memorial service by some notes that fell out of a Bible as the family was sorting through their home. In a family Bible, we found notes and clippings that included a verse or two, and a scripture clipped from a bulletin.

So what we have included with this sermon mailing this week is a brief collection of some scriptures on the important themes of the Bible, together with some brief statements of my own that give them a context in our own lives.

What is missing from these notes is the give and take of discussion, of course.

My goal in putting these scriptures and short interpretive sentences into this booklet was to create something that could easily be slipped into your own Bible, and set on a bedside table. There are powerful lessons with which you can have endless hours of thought and reflection.

Ten Simple Things to Remember When We Honor Those Whom We Love is given to you with the hope that you will find in them the challenge, the hope, and the peace of God which passes all understanding.



**Dr. John H. Cushman
Presbyterian Church of the Roses
2500 Patio Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
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