

How Can This Church Respond to Death and Grief?
Sierra Baptist Church
AM – 8-27-2017

Embrace Our Connectedness.

And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; and if one member is honored, all the member rejoice with it.

1 Corinthians 12:26 NASB

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Romans 12:15 NASB

Treasure The Relationship.

Greet Prisca and Aquilla, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles; also greet the church that is in their house. Greet Epaphroditus, my beloved, who is the first convert to Christ from Asia. Romans 16:3-5 NASB

Celebrate Their Contribution.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated in Greek is called Dorcas): this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did. And it happened at that time that she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her body, they laid it in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, having heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him imploring him, "Do not delay in coming to us." So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, they brought him into the upper room; and all the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them. But Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed, and turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

Accept Our Loss.

So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord. And He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor; but no man knows his burial place to this day. Although Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died, his eye was not dim, nor his vigor abated. So the sons of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; the the days of weeping and mourning for Moses came to an end. Deuteronomy 34:5-8 NASB

Receive God's Comfort and Hope.

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so will God bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NASB

Sing praises to the Lord, you His godly ones, and give thanks to His holy name. For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning. Psalm 30:4-5 NASB

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18 NASB

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
Psalm 147:3 NASB