

## AUGUST DEVOTIONAL IDEAS FOR SENIOR ADULTS

### “God Knows Your Name”

**Materials needed:** A Bible, the music and words to the songs, “O, How I Love Jesus” and “God is so Good,” and, if possible, an accompanist. Seniors really do not mind singing without accompaniment.

**Ahead of time:** Give a happy, friendly, sincere greeting to each person who comes to the devotional time. Say their names. If you do not know their names, ask their names and, when they tell you, repeat the name. Ask questions about their names.

### Devotional Time

- A famous man came to speak in the town. A fellow was assigned to be the speaker's host. For three days, the fellow met the speaker at the hotel,, took him where he needed or wanted to go, ate with him, visited with him. The fellow, who was the host, felt that he and the speaker had become good friends. A few days later, the speaker was speaking in a town nearby. The host fellow decided to go and see his new speaker-friend. When they met, speaker said, “Hello, I am glad to meet you. What is your name?” The fellow was disappointed that the speaker did not remember him, did not know his name!
- It is such a pleasant comfort when you are met by someone who greets you and knows your name.
- When landing in an airport, there is some comfort when a person meeting you holds a sign with your name in large letters. But, it is NOT the same as being met by a friend who knows your name!
- A wonderful story is in the Bible in 20th chapter of John. Jesus was crucified and was buried. The third day after His death, Sunday Morning, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled aside from the tomb's entrance. Distressed, she ran to tell the disciples that someone had taken The Lord's body out of the tomb. The disciples rushed to the tomb. They saw that the tomb was empty! Only the linen burial clothes were lying in the tomb. Saddened, the disciples went home. But, Mary went back to the tomb.
- The Bible continues the story. READ John 20, verses 11-16.
- JESUS KNEW MARY'S NAME! It was her beloved Jesus, her Master, her Teacher. He had been crucified, but Jesus had risen from the dead! What joy! He was alive!! He knew her name!
- AND JESUS KNOWS OUR NAMES! HE KNOWS YOUR NAME, HE LOVES YOU! HE KNOWS MY NAME. HE LOVES ME!
- The Good News is that God made us, knows our names, loves us, and offers each of us His eternal salvation.
- In John 3:16, God has proved His love for you and me.
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- Dr. Robert Scales was a beloved former pastor at Trinity Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. He often said: "I am SO thankful that God used that word "whosoever" when He talked about His love for us and about His providing eternal life to those who believe in His salvation.
- Dr. Scales said, "I am glad that God said "whosoever" because there is another man in Oklahoma City whose name is Robert Scales. If God had just named the name Robert Scales, it could have been that other man about whom God was speaking! But, God said "whosoever." That includes me & you."
- Now let's quote John 3:16 again. When you come to the word "whosoever," substitute YOUR name.
- GOD KNOWS YOUR NAME. GOD LOVES YOU. GOD WANTS YOU ACCEPT HIS SALVATION.
- READ: Romans 3:23 and Romans 10:9-10
- If you have accepted God's love and offer of eternal salvation, you feel secure in God's love and promise of eternal life with Him.
- If you have not accepted God's love and offer of eternal salvation, you can do that right now!
- Believe that GOD KNOWS YOUR NAME, and sent His Son to die for you,
- Admit that you have sinned and need a Savior,
- Confess your sin and ask God for forgiveness,
- Trust God and give your life to Him as your personal Lord and Savior..
- READ: Romans 10:38-39
- If you have not trusted Jesus as your personal Savior and would like to talk about it, please raise your hand. I (we) will be happy to meet with you and talk with you after our closing prayer.
- Let's sing together that wonderful chorus: "God Is So Good."
- Now let's sing it again, but this time with the words: "God is so good, He knows my name,....."
- Close with a prayer, thanking God that HE KNOWS OUR NAMES, that He loves and offers each of us His eternal salvation.

### **A CRAFT IDEA: A COLORING PAGE WITH A PICTURE OF THE EMPTY TOMB**

Note to the leader: Google "Free coloring pages of Christ's empty tomb." You will find several pictures. Choose a simple, clear picture of the tomb and make copies.

Materials needed; A coloring page for each person and sharp, new crayons

- Ask each person to color his/her page. Give assistance, if needed. Begin a discussion about the resurrection of Jesus who loves us and died to save us from our sins and arose from the grave. Be sure each person's name is on his coloring sheet.
- Comment that GOD LOVES US AND KNOWS OUR NAMES.