

Remembering the presence of God

Hand around a basket containing small either polished or river smoothed rocks. Ask people to choose one. And examine it and roll it around in their hands. Comment on how none of the stones are the same, they are unique. They have been formed by great pressure and some seem to have flaws but that is what makes them what they are. They have been formed by a process of nature that God ordained.

Read the end of Romans 8

31 ¶ So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose?

32 If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us?

33 And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen?

34 Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us.

35 Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture:

36 They kill us in cold blood because they hate you. We're sitting ducks; they pick us off one by one.

37 None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us.

38 I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow,

39 high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.

We all know this scripture but at times we struggle holding on to the reality of it. Invite the people to use their rock as a reminder that no matter were they are Jesus can be with them. Put it in your pocket and when you need a reminder reach in and touch it and remember a fresh the promises of God.