

Short Talk

(SHT048)

One thing remains

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SHORT TALK: “ONE THING REMAINS” (SHT048)

Aim of Short talk:	To encourage people that no matter what they lose in this life, one things remains; God’s love
Main themes:	Suffering, God’s love
Biblical references:	Job 1:21, Romans 8:35, 38-39
Props:	Bible, Photograph album, Picture of a house, two books, packet of biscuits, glass of water, sun-cream, football, bottle of medicine.

I need eight helpers this morning to come and hold some things for me. *(Eight volunteers come forward)*

Our lives are made up of all sorts of wonderful things aren’t they?

- The most wonderful thing of all is our relationship with Father God, who loves us and sent Jesus to be our Saviour.
- Please could you hold this Bible to help us remember God’s love for us. *(Give a Bible to 1st volunteer)*

We have our families and friends.....who love us.

- Please could you hold this photograph album to help us remember our families and friends? *(Give a photograph album to 2nd volunteer)*

We have homes full of things don’t we?

- Many of us also have gardens and cars and money in the bank *(Give a picture of a house to 3rd volunteer)*

We have opportunities to learn all sorts of exciting things about the world we live in,

- because we have schools to go to....
- and many of us have moved on to having a job in the world *(Give a couple of books to 4th volunteer)*

We have plenty of delicious food to eat and clean water to drink. *(Give packet of biscuits and glass of water to 5th volunteer)*

Some of us have holidays to enjoy. *(Give sun-cream to 6th volunteer),*

Most of us have time to take part in some sort of relaxing activity *(Give football to 7th volunteer)*

Because we have a good health service, many of us enjoy good health *(Give bottle of medicine to 8th volunteer)*

I want you to imagine for a moment what would be left in your life if you started to lose some of those blessings.

How would you feel if the holiday company you had booked with suddenly went bust and you could no longer go on holiday? *(take sun-cream off 6th volunteer and ask them to sit down)*

- Probably rather disappointed.....
- Your life wouldn't change that much would it because you still have all these other blessings *(wave hand at the other volunteers)*

How about if you got really ill? *(take bottle of medicine off 8th volunteer and ask them to sit down)*

- That would be tough wouldn't it?

It would be life changing especially if you could no longer go to school or work? *(take couple of books off 4th volunteer and ask them to sit down)*

- or do the things you like doing *(take football off 7th volunteer and ask them to sit down)*

If that happened to you what would be left in your life?

- There would be your relationship with God, *(Point to 1st volunteer)*
- Your relationships with your family and friends, *(Point to 2nd volunteer)*
- Your home *(Point to 3^d volunteer)*
- and the fact that you still have enough food and water to live on. *(Point to 5th volunteer)*

Although you would be suffering,

- your life could carry on.

Now imagine the worst thing possible happens.

- The town where you live is suddenly struck by an earthquake.
- Your home collapses and is now only a pile of rubble *(take picture of house off 3^d volunteer and ask them to sit down)* and you lose all of your money.
- All your family and friends are killed in the earthquake *(take photograph album off 2nd volunteer and ask them to sit down)*
- and you no longer have access to food and water. *(take biscuits and glass of water off 1st volunteer and ask them to sit down)*

Your life is in disaster.

- Would there be anything left at all?

Yes....there would....even in that terrible situation,

- because **one thing remains**.....
- One thing that will always be there, strong and true,
- and that is God's love for you.....*(point to 1st volunteer)*

God will never stop loving you no matter what is going on in your life.

- He will always be your Father, and you will be his child, once you have turned to Jesus.

Now most of us here will never have to go through the hardships that we have just talked about,

- although plenty of people around the world do.
- However, we will all have times in our lives when things that are precious to us are taken away, and we suffer.

At those times, we need to remember that **one thing remains**.....

- One thing stays even when other things go,
- and that one thing is God's love for you and God's love for me.

St Paul said it like this:

- *“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)*