WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL SERVICE

REMARKS OF REV. BILLY GRAHAM

Background: On Friday, Sept. 14 (3 days after the attacks) President Bush called for a “National Day of Prayer” and a service attended by thousands was held at the Washington Nat. Cathedral, in Washington D.C. The Rev. Dr. Billy Graham gave keynote remarks.

Directions: As you listen answer the reflection questions below. Note: This activity is not designed to promote nor deny any religious ideology, but instead help you understand the events following the attacks.

1. In what way does Graham use his opening remarks to bring people of various faiths and political backgrounds together?

2. What is Graham’s message to those who masterminded the attacks?

3. Graham does not shy away from one of the most basic questions that arose after the attacks – How do we understand something like this? Why does God allow evil like this to take place? What is Graham’s answer?

4. What do you think of Graham’s answer? How does it match or conflict with your own belief systems? How would you have answered the question?
5. Graham makes mention of the enormous acts of goodness that followed the attacks. Cite some of them here.

5. What does Graham say the event reminds us of, in regard to the nature of life?

Note: Graham outlines the religious ideology of Christianity. Other perspectives were also offered during the service. To view them, click on the link to the entire service – as it was broadcast to the nation.

6. What analogy does Graham draw between the collapse of the WTC and the moral and cultural nature of the United States?

7. What does Graham believe the day will be remembered as?

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**Final Question**

8. – 10. If you were asked to speak at the service (or to console a friend or loved one who was troubled by the events of 9/11) – what would you say? Jot a few of your thoughts here.
Background: Six months after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Oprah filmed a show with Dr. Maya Angelou. After the show, and with the tragic events on the top of everyone's minds, the two women stuck around for a conversation with the audience. Dr. Angelou said that she was in New York on 9/11, and her first thought was of the people in the building. But who she thought of next might surprise you.

QUESTION
What is the difference between “longing” after justice and “lusting” after justice?

What is the difference between “men” and “males” and “women” and “females?”

Do you agree with what the audience member says about forgiveness? Explain.
Directions: As you watch and listen summarize the remarks of each speaker below. Then critique the remarks from your own personal standpoint, expressing whether you agree or disagree with the statements made. *Remarks begin 31 min. into the broadcast.*

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<th>SPEAKER</th>
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<td>Jane Holmes Dixon</td>
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<td>Washington Bishop Pro Tempore</td>
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<td>Rev. Nathan D. Baxter - Dean,</td>
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### Reflection Questions

1. One of the goals of the service was to facilitate the national healing process. Do you think it succeeded? Explain.

2. The service included people from several religious faiths. Why did the planners do this? Some found it controversial. Do you think it was a good idea? Explain.

3. Was the service of value to those without religious beliefs? What, if any, purpose could it serve to them? Explain.

### Vocabulary

Define the following:

1. Bishop Pro Tempore
2. Rabbi
3. Pastor
4. Cardinal
5. Archbishop