

Free Sermon Funeral
Funeral for Cindy Hayes
2 Timothy 3:10-11

I. Intro

A. *We're all here today to remember the life of Cindy Hayes.*

1. Many people came by last night because Ms. Cindy meant so much to them.
2. They came.
3. And they spoke about their experiences with Ms. Cindy.
4. They remembered her.
5. She's part of their memory.
6. There are many people here today, too.
7. All of us here today have probably shared something from our lives where Ms. Cindy was involved.
8. We remember her.
9. We have memories of her.

B. *Ms. Cindy's obituary has been in the paper.*

1. It was read earlier.
2. That obituary remembers Ms. Cindy.
3. It's a sharing of memories.

C. *Obituaries are unique pieces of writing.*

1. It's a 2-inch wide column of words.
2. Its price is calculated by its length.
3. So, limited by those constraints...
4. ...We try to record the entire life of a person.
5. We attempt to remember.
6. We try to highlight our memories.
7. All condensed down to a couple of inches in some newspaper.

D. *What can we really learn about someone from an obituary?*

1. Where they lived.
2. Where they died.
3. A few interests.
4. Their survivors.
5. It's hard to capture all the memories we have of one person's life in a few inches of news copy.

E. *It's hard to find the essence of a person in an obituary.*

1. What made them tick?
2. What shaped them?
3. What made up their life?
4. How did they approach life?

F. *We don't find that in an obituary.*

1. We find that in their life.
2. In the life we remember.

G. *That's what our memories of Ms. Cindy are made of.*

1. They're made of seeing her live.
2. They're made of experiencing life with Ms. Cindy.

H. *As I was recalling my own memories of Ms. Cindy, I was drawn to the life experiences she shared with a Biblical character.*

1. I know there are comparisons between Ms. Cindy's life and the life of women in the Bible.
2. But I think her life was more in parallel with a prominent male Bible figure.
3. Paul.

I. *Most Bible scholars believe the last writings we have of Paul is the book of 2 Timothy.*

1. Paul wrote a very personal letter to Timothy.
2. He touched on subjects that were very important to Him.
3. And he wrote 2 Timothy as a man who knew his time was near.

J. *There's a couple of verses Paul writes to Timothy.*

1. Verses where Paul tries to get Timothy to remember what he's seen in the life of Paul.
2. These verses are 2 Timothy 3:10-11.
3. (*Read 2 Timothy 3:10-11*).
4. ¹⁰ You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. (**2 Timothy 3:10-11**, NIV)

K. *That was Paul's obituary.*

1. That was his life.
2. An obituary couldn't capture Paul's influence on Timothy.
3. Paul told Timothy, "You know all about me..."
4. It was Paul's life, lived in living color, that made the memories.

L. *We can't sum up Ms. Cindy in a few inches in the newspaper.*

1. But our memories are made up of watching her live.
2. And that life she lived is a joy to celebrate.
3. And lessons to remember.

M. *Thinking about what Paul wrote brings memories of Ms. Cindy's life.*

1. There's so much they shared in common.
2. ¹⁰ You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings...(**2 Timothy 3:10-11**, NIV)
3. I saw much of Ms. Cindy's life in those words.
4. Memories to remember her by.

II. Ms. Cindy was an Encourager.

A. *Paul wrote the entire books of 1 and 2 Timothy to encourage his spiritual son, Timothy.*

1. As Paul gets ready to leave this world, he still wants to encourage him.
2. That was a mark of Paul's life.
3. He was an Encourager.

B. *Ms. Cindy was an Encourager.*

1. That trait came about because of how she saw people.
2. She saw the good in all people.
3. And she wanted to encourage them to be everything God created them to be.

C. *My wife and I were talking about Ms. Cindy this weekend.*

1. We were talking about the wonderful attitude Ms. Cindy always had.
2. How you could walk into Liberty Drugstore and she was glad to see you.
3. I mentioned that Ms. Cindy thought more of me than I think of me.
4. Because she saw things in me I can't even see.
5. And that's encouraging.

D. *Not just a feel-good-for-a-few-minutes encouragement.*

1. Ms. Cindy's encouragement was life-changing encouragement.
2. She had the ability to see the good in you.
3. And talk you into believing it!
4. That's encouragement!

E. *I would venture to say that every person in this room received encouragement from Ms. Cindy.*

1. That's what we're here to remember this afternoon.
2. A Godly woman who could make anybody feel they could conquer the world.
3. We're here to remember the contagious encouragement of Ms. Cindy Hayes.
4. Ms. Cindy was an encourager.

III. Ms. Cindy was an Endurer.

A. *This is where I find another parallel between her and the Apostle Paul.*

1. Paul endured many things.
2. Beatings.
3. Shipwrecks.
4. Snake bites.
5. Abandonment.
6. Hatred.
7. Yet he never lost his faith.
8. He never gave up on God.

B. Ms. Cindy face a lot of challenges in her life.

1. She had medical challenges.
2. Surgeries.
3. Heart problems.
4. She was challenged by quite a few health problems
5. Much of Ms. Cindy's later life was a challenge.

C. But she never gave up.

1. She never lost her faith.
2. She never turned her back on God.
3. She took the things that came at her in life and ran to God.
4. Hers was a faith that came from a real relationship with a real God...
5. ...That was with her every step of the way.
6. She endured.

IV. She was an Enjoyer.

A. This is what I remember most about Ms. Cindy.

1. There are many different single moments I remember about Ms. Cindy.
2. But they're all wrapped up in this one attribute.
3. Ms. Cindy enjoyed life in all these single moments.
4. She enjoyed because she loved.

B. Ms. Cindy was one of the most loving people I ever knew.

1. She loved.

C. She loved her family.

1. She loved her husband.
2. Mr. Bobby, she loved you completely.

D. She loved her children.

1. She was so proud of you, Robbie and Susan.
2. Every success you had, she shared.
3. Because she loved you!
4. She loved Dade and Emily.

E. But I have to tell you I think she loved her grandkids more, though.

1. Keely, Julia, Reagan, and Rob.
2. She loved you all.

F. She loved Monk Monk.

1. She loved her big sister.
2. She loved her nieces.

G. And here's the real proof of her ability to love.

1. She loved her nephews.
2. She loved the Moore boys.
3. How strong a woman does that show us?!?

H. *She loved everybody she knew.*

1. We say that about other people.
2. They love people.
3. But Ms. Cindy really loved people.
4. She loved persons.
5. Individuals.
6. She enjoyed people because she loved people.

V. *That's Ms. Cindy's obituary to me.*

A. *Her life.*

1. She encouraged.
2. She endured.
3. She enjoyed.
4. Her life well lived is my memory of her.

B. *That's one other, very important thing I have in my memories of Ms. Cindy.*

1. I want to go back to that passage Paul wrote to Timothy.
2. Read 2 Timothy 3:10-11.
3. ¹⁰ You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. (**2 Timothy 3:10-11**, NIV)

C. *That's what I read earlier.*

1. 2 Timothy 3:10-11.
2. But there is a little more to verse 11.
3. Verse 11 ends like this.
4. ¹¹...Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. (**2 Timothy 3:10-11**, NIV)

D. *Here's the number one memory I have of Ms. Cindy.*

1. This defines her life.
2. It is the obituary she would want most to be known.

E. *Ms. Cindy trusted in the Lord.*

1. Through all the good times
2. And all the bad.
3. She trusted the Lord.
4. Because she knew Jesus would rescue her from it all.

F. *And on January 18, 2019, He did just that.*

1. He rescued Ms. Cindy.
2. All the pain.
3. All the hurt.
4. All gone.
5. She is with her Jesus right now.

G. *Is life hard right now?*

1. Remember life was sometimes hard for Ms. Cindy, too.
2. She encouraged.
3. She endured.
4. She enjoyed.

H. *And she believed.*

1. She trusted in a Savior who will save.
2. Save us from our pain.
3. Save us from our sin.
4. Save us to enjoy Him.
5. Forever.