

"Delight in Beauty"

by Rev. John C. Tittle

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4: 8-9 NRSV

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is your favorite:
 - Place in nature
 - Work of art
 - Movie
 - Song
2. What does beauty do to our souls? How might it help in our relations with others?
3. What jumps out at you about this passage?
4. How do we go about determining what is good, beautiful, and true?
5. What do you think of the statement that "all truth is God's truth?"
6. How can we perform hiddur mitzvah (beautifying our faith and God's commandments)?
7. What happens when we try to capture, control, or pin down beauty in our lives?
8. Is beauty in the eye of the beholder? Does beauty exist out in the world or only in us or both?
9. What do you think of the concept of GIGO (garbage in, garbage out) in our spiritual lives?
10. Paul says that not only our thinking matters, but our actions, and that we pass on these good things to others. Why are all three of these things important (what we ponder, practice, and pass on)?