

# Love and Loss

Exploring questions around dementia,  
bereavement and grief

Being a  
**dementia**   
friendly church

'Tis better to have loved and lost  
than never to have loved at all.

*(A.L.Tennyson)*

The risk of love is loss and the  
price of loss is grief.

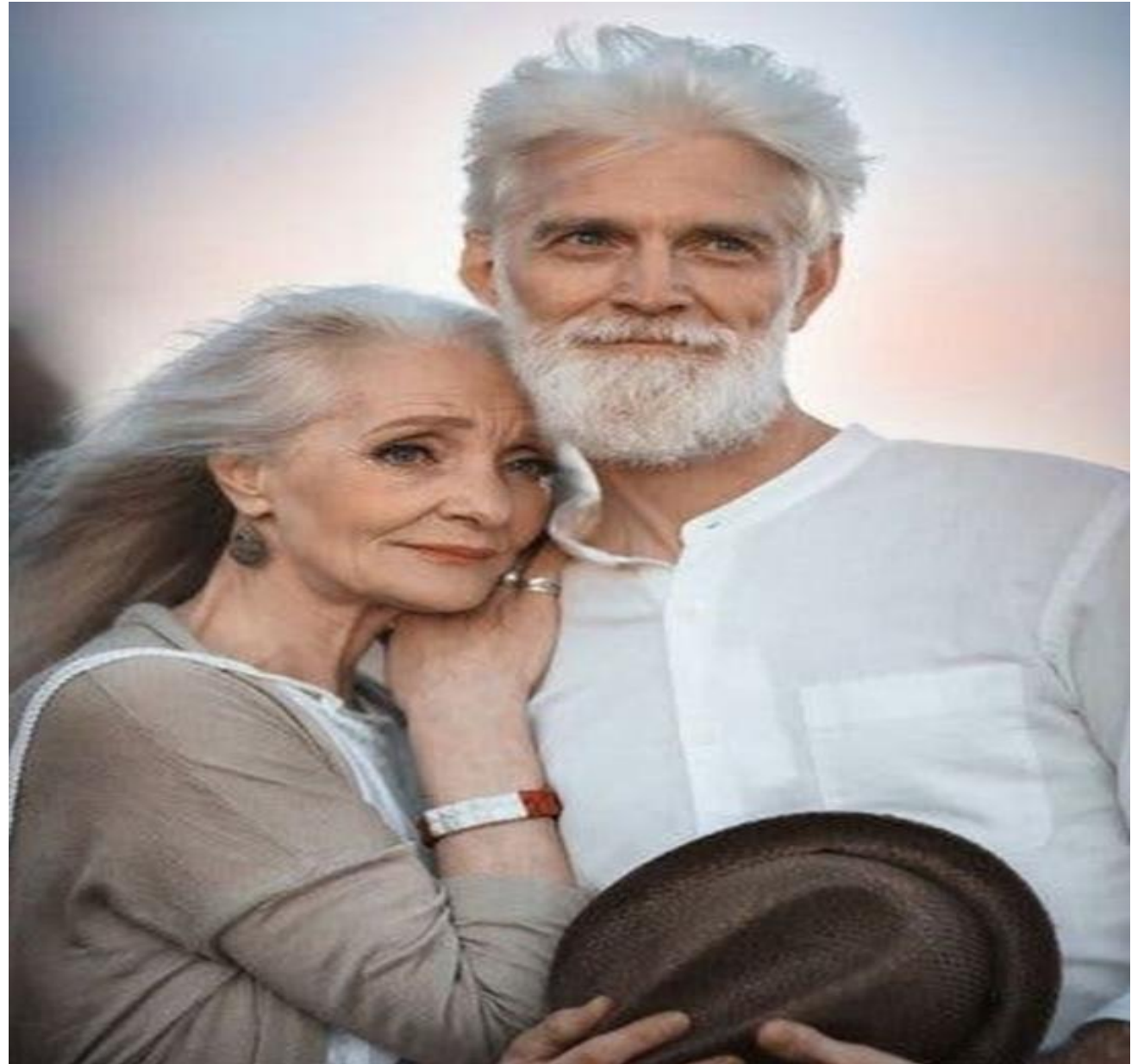
But the pain of grief is only a  
shadow when compared with  
the pain of never risking love.

*(Hilary Stanton Zunin)*

# Love and Loss

QUESTION 1:

Can anyone  
who feels love  
avoid feeling  
loss?



# bereave (v.)

Middle English *bireven*,  
from Old English *bereafian*

to deprive of,  
take away by violence,  
seize,  
rob.

# Love and Loss

QUESTION 2:

What are the losses that cause you the most grief?



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QUESTION 3:

How does loss  
affect those  
caring for  
someone living  
with dementia?





# Love and Loss

QUESTION 4:

How does loss  
affect a person  
living with  
dementia?



## SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION A

Have you ever had to try and answer questions relating to people whom your loved one doesn't realise have died?

## SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION B

Have you ever had to try and break the news of someone's death to your loved one?

# Love and Loss

QUESTION 4:

How does loss  
affect a person  
living with  
dementia?



## *Telling a person with dementia that a loved one has died*

1. Consider when and how to share this
2. Choose a “good” time – and a safe place
3. Recognise you may be emotional, but don't rush
4. Watch and listen for any response
5. Try not to react if they respond inappropriately
6. Maintain eye contact and offer physical comfort
7. Don't be surprised if they don't show emotion
8. Be prepared to stop, and try again at another time
9. Ensure they are safe and supported afterwards
10. They may not remember – so you may need to share again

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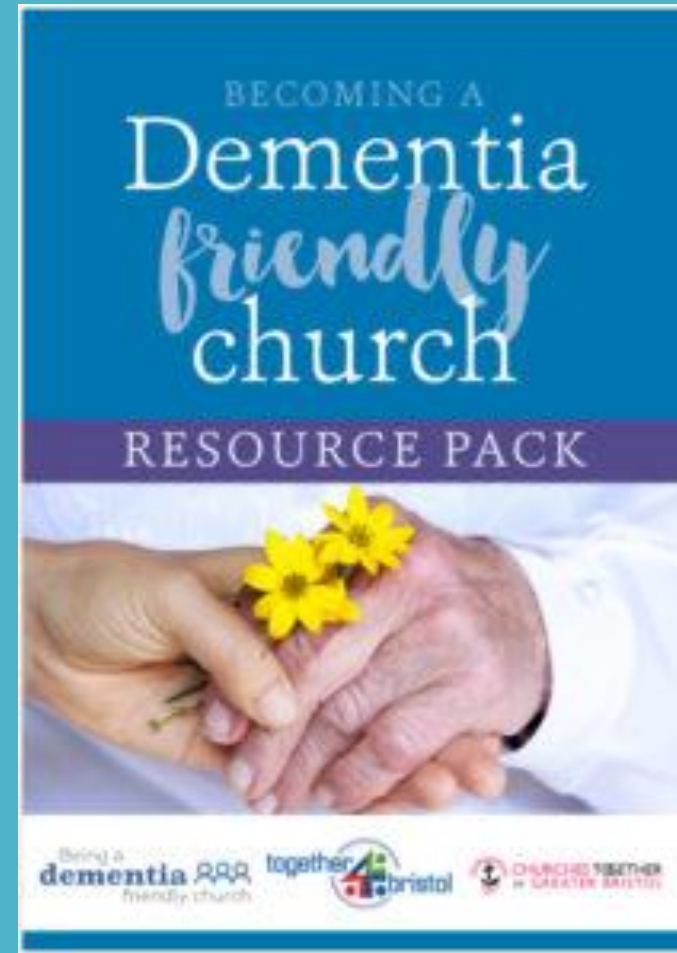
QUESTION 5:

Are there ways  
we can support  
those feeling  
loss?



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Some organisations you may find helpful:



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Any other questions to ask?