178. SHARING MEMORIES - WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 4, 2026

Good morning, Grace Harbor – it's Dan. Happy Wednesday, and happy National Candy Day!

We're now a few days past Halloween, and if you've got some leftover candy – and permission from your grown-up – today might be a great day to enjoy something sweet and share a piece or two with your family.

I've got a trivia question for you. Which candy do you think was invented first: M&M's or Reese's Peanut Butter Cups? I'll give you 10 seconds to make your guess.

[SHORT PAUSE]

The answer is… Reese's Peanut Butter Cups! The first time someone asked me that question, I totally got it wrong, but it's true. Reese's Peanut Butter Cups were developed in 1928, and M&M's debuted in 1941.

These two classics often trade off the title of "most popular candy" in the United States, with M&M's ranking number 1 around Halloween, and Reese's selling the most over the whole year. But recently, fruity candy has seen a surge in popularity with Sour Patch Kids, Skittles, and NERDS Gummy Clusters rounding out the top five this year.

Well, this week we've been reflecting on All Saints Day, which was this last Sunday. It's a day when we remember and celebrate those we love who have died. This is

something we do every year, and while it can be sad, it's really important to remember and give thanks for the people who have had an impact on us. We don't want to forget them.

In the Bible, we have a letter that a man named Paul wrote to a church that he started. It seems like the people in that church were having a hard time and feeling really sad about their friends and family who had died. They may have even been worrying about whether God was now taking care of them.

In response, Paul told them to have hope alongside their sadness. He reminded them that because God raised Jesus from the dead, we too can be with God forever. God knows us and loves us and will not forget about any of us. He then wrote, "encourage each other with these words."

One of the ways we can intentionally remember those we love and encourage one another when we're missing them is by telling stories about our loved ones. We keep their memory alive, and we pass down the impact they had on the people and world around them.

Just this last week, I was using a hot glue gun for something, and it reminded me of my grandfather. He was a pilot for part of his life, and after he retired he liked to build and fly model airplanes. I can remember him showing me around his workshop, and I can still smell the glue and the paint he used.

Why don't we take a few moments and let one of you name

someone you're missing and tell a quick story about them. If you need more time, or if more than one person wants to share now, feel free to pause the podcast. I'll be right here when you get back.

[PAUSE]

This is, of course, something you can do anytime – not just during a 30-second break in a podcast. Perhaps at dinner tonight, or bed time, you can share more stories about people you're missing.

And let me encourage you. Being a pastor, I've spent lots of time with families who have lost loved ones. There's pretty much always going to be sadness, and that's ok. That's totally natural. But I've found that when I ask people to tell me stories about their loved ones, they almost always end up telling stories that make them smile or even laugh. This is to me a sign of the hope we can have alongside our sadness.

Ok, let's close in prayer. If you want to, you can close your eyes and fold your hands.

Dear God, we thank you for the memories we have of the people we love – especially those who are no longer with us. We know you'll never forget them, and we can join you in remembering them by telling their story. May their memory be a blessing. Amen.

Ok, Grace Harbor, have a wonderful Wednesday, and I'll see you tomorrow.

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