

A January Moment...
Moment Ministries Corvallis, Or
Art Morgan and Paul Pritchard Ministers and Colleagues

THIS MIGHT PINCH A LITTLE

I paused a moment before speaking...
 looked over the roomful...
 some standing in the back...
 maybe 500 they told me.
I wasn't counting the crowd...
 not nervous about so many...
 not wondering what to say...
 just having some last thoughts.
It used to happen when I stood to preach...
 I would pause to remember
 that in every human gathering
 many are grieving.
Maybe not fresh grief as for some right then...
 but sometimes very recent...
 sometimes maybe far back...
 still-warm embers easily stirred.
So I paused to let myself remember
 that grief is an ever-present fact
 in every gathering...
 not necessarily limited for that day.
There would be speakers...
 friends and his two children...
 before my "Art's Moment"...
So I spoke introductory words:
 "As Ken would say before
 injecting the Novocain...
 'This might pinch a little'...
 He always seemed to know how to
 make us smile."
"So we'll share this hour
 "and see how it goes."
Yes, it pinched a little....
 I hope not too much.

Art Morgan, January 14, 2020

The service was for Dr. Ken Johnson, at the Oregon State
University Alumni Center