

## Preparation for G195 — Home

It takes a heap o' livin' in a house t' make it home,  
A heap o' sun an' shadder, an' ye sometimes have t' roam  
Afore ye really 'preciate the things ye lef' behind,  
An' hunger fer 'em somehow, with 'em allus on yer mind.  
It don't make any differunce how rich ye get t' be,  
How much yer chairs an' tables cost, how great yer luxury;  
It ain't home t' ye, though it be the palace of a king,  
*Until somehow yer soul is sort o' wrapped round everything*  
~ Excerpt from "Home" by Edgar Guest

1. The above excerpt seems to say that much time and experience are required to make a house (or any place of residence) a true home for a person. How do your life experiences lead you to agree or disagree with this assertion?
2. Is there now or has there been at some time in your life, a place that was home to you whether you actually lived there or not ...Grandma's? A place you loved but left? A school? A club? Some other place than where you lived where you felt safe and welcome? What makes or made that place home to you?
3. When you move to a new residence what do you do to make the new place feel like home? If you have moved a lot, how quickly can you make a new place feel like home? What does it take for you ... A familiar arrangement of your possessions? Making a new friend? Finding out where to buy groceries? Or ...?
4. Our hymn calls us to "Return to the home of your soul. Return to who you are, return to what you are, return to where you are born and reborn again." What does "the home of your soul" mean to you?