

# TABOO 2

BREAKING THE SILENCE ON MORE TOUGH TOPICS

Part 3: Death & Dying | September 30 & October 1, 2017  
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**A startling truth no one wants to talk about: we are all dying.**

A person's days are determined;  
you have decreed the number of his months  
and have set limits he cannot exceed. – Job 14:5

## **Common reactions to death:**

Avoidance – “I’m not talking about it”

Minimizing – “It’s not that big of a deal”

Insensitivity – “God must have needed another angel”

Strategic Extension – “I can beat it”

Immersion – “I’m stuck in it”

## **To a follower of Jesus, death is...**

A final moment followed by a new beginning (2 Timothy 4:6-8)

An upgrade to a promised eternity (Philippians 1:21 and Revelation 21:3-5)

A victory (1 Corinthians 15:51-57)

Hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

## **Jesus confronts death head on (Luke 7:11-17)**

<sup>11</sup> Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. <sup>12</sup> As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. <sup>13</sup> When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, “Don’t cry.”

<sup>14</sup> Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” <sup>15</sup> The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother.

<sup>16</sup> They were all filled with awe and praised God. “A great prophet has appeared among us,” they said. “God has come to help his people.” <sup>17</sup> This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.

Two large crowds

One winner

Two broken hearts

One celebration

Two only sons

Two mortal enemies – life and death

## **A Pastor's Thoughts on Dying Well**

1. **Say the words** (*Job 13:15*)
2. **Mend fences** (*Romans 12:18*)
3. **Leave instructions** (*Proverbs 27:23-24*)
4. **Rest easy** (*2 Corinthians 4:16-18 and Ecclesiastes 3:11*)
5. **If you have lost someone, grieve** (*Psalms 34:18*)

## **Next Steps**

### **Grace to Grieve: 8 Monday Evenings, starts this week • 6:30–8:15 PM at CTK**

The only way through grief is... to grieve. But grief isn't just about death; grieving is a necessary part of healing from any kind of loss — divorce, broken relationships, job loss, traumatic past experiences, financial ruin, or a difficult diagnosis. Join local counselor Janet Robinson for a time of insightful teaching, self-discovery and support as you learn the “how-to's” of God's design for grieving and healing well. Register at the Connection Point, at [ctk.church](http://ctk.church), or contact Jayne (x272 or [jayned@ctk.church](mailto:jayned@ctk.church)). Open to men and women 18 and older.

**Compass** is a program that helps kids navigate life's difficulties. This fall, Facing Change is their theme, and it will be a great kid-level exploration of the grief cycle death can initiate for kids. Compass starts this Monday, at 6:30pm, so register your child today at the Connection Point.

**For more resources on grief, advance care planning, and end-of-life financial planning**, see Pastor Wendy Powell today at the Next Steps table in the Commons.

## **Small Group Questions**

- 1) Let's start happy! Share a moment when you felt alive this past summer.
- 2) Have you ever faced the death of a loved one? Did you learn anything about the process of dying that helps you live right now?
- 3) Grant listed some truths about death for anyone who knows Jesus. Can you add any truths to his list? Additional scriptures?
- 4) Jesus confronted death head on in Luke 7. What did you learn about living and dying from this story?
- 5) Have you given any thought to dying well? How about grieving well? What is your plan to respond instead of to react to death?
- 6) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?