

## Facing the Last Enemy

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### Introduction

We've considered the question, "What is death, according to the Scripture?" Now we'll build on that by asking, "How do we apply that truth as we encounter death in its many forms?"

### How do I Help the Dying & the Grieving?

How do we serve those who know their death is immanent?

- Preparation, knowing the Gospel speaks into life & death situations
  - Be sensitive to their condition (Pov 25:11; Eph 4:29), and ready for physical changes (2 Cor 4:16)
- Presence – Often the best thing we can do is just be with them (Gal 6:2)
  - Listen, don't solve or fix (Job 13:5). Focus on the ministry of the Word and prayer (1 Cor 2:2-3)
- Prognosis – It's not sinful to yield to God's providence
  - Our duty is limited not by what God can do, but what He's said He will do
- Point them to Christ
  - If we hold out the Gospel to them, we've done the very best thing
- Praying, with and for them

How do we serve the grieving?

- Step in to help. The experience of grief and mourning can be overwhelming
- Serve for the long haul. Life for the mourner doesn't "go back to normal"
- Speak to them of the deceased. Be sensitive, but share thoughts and memories

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Most importantly: Come armed with the Gospel and ready to serve