



Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
Ockenga Fellows Retreat 3

Psalm 90 | A Good and Faithful Death

# Four characteristics of a good and faithful death:

## 1. Trust

# Patients who had religious practices and beliefs:

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Reintegrating Care for the Dying, Body and Soul by Michael and Tracy Balboni

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3. They “were three times more likely to receive intensive life-prolonging care (e.g., mechanical ventilation and resuscitation).”
4. They were “nearly two times more likely to die in an intensive care unit” (ICU).

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“Likewise, other studies have shown that aggressive care at life’s end is associated with poorer patient quality of death and higher rates of patients’ family members experiencing pathologic bereavement after their death, including greater rates of major depression disorder, ongoing regrets, and feeling unprepared for the loss.”

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5. We separate the needs of our body from the needs of our soul.

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# John 11:25-26

“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”” (NIV®)

# Four characteristics of a good and faithful death:

1. Trust
2. Reconciliation



“I wish I would have reconciled  
with others sooner.”

Most common regret of dying patients

# Acts 4:12

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” (NIV®)

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# Planning Your Funeral Handout

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6. Who do you want to do your funeral?
7. Are there any other specifics?

# Four characteristics of a good and faithful death:

1. Trust
2. Reconciliation
3. Preparation
4. Joy

# Philippians 1:21

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (NIV®)



*As Christians we can die differently because of the hope we have in Christ.*