

**BIBLE STUDY 2 (Student's Guide)**  
**The Meaning of Life: A Gift From God**  
**Second Sunday: Life is a Gift To Be Respected As God Is Taking It**  
*"Is it OK to pull the plug? What about advanced Medical Directives?"*

*Last week we talked about how important it is to defend life as the gift of God that it is, the blood-bought value it has. Today, we see that respecting God as the Author and Controller of life means not trying to prevent Him from doing what He is doing – not thinking ourselves above Him on the other side of the issue – being willing to let go.*

Introduction: Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care.

**I. The Question of Death**

Is it OK to want to die?

Read the following passages and discuss what God says through each one to shape our mindset as we approach the time He will take us.

**Philippians 1:23**

**Psalms 31:5**

**Romans 14:8**

**Psalms 90:12**

**Apply It:**

Do we have to use every medical measure possible to keep someone alive who is ready to meet their Savior?

What if measures have been taken to rescue the life of a loved one? Is there ever a time for us to “pull the plug” on the machinery keeping him/her alive? When is that?

**II. The *Benefits* of Death.**

Consider Jesus' death. Read Luke 23:44-49.

What was Jesus' attitude toward his death?

How did hearing this and witnessing the other things the centurion saw that day affect that Roman soldier?

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So now, if our attitude toward death is one of seeing God as in control and we have a willingness to go when He wants, how can we best use the events around that once-in-a-lifetime event called death to give Him glory?

How could these parts of your death be used to God's glory?

- The Will:
  
- The Obituary:
  
- The Funeral:

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Which of the following best describes what you would like your funeral to be? *Rank them as most important to least important. Put an x in the blank if you don't want this to be the case at all.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ A time of mourning for your friends and relatives to deal with the grief of losing you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A celebration of the life you lived and the impact you had on those around you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ An opportunity for people to get some closure on your life
- \_\_\_\_\_ An opportunity for relatives to bury the hatchet
- \_\_\_\_\_ A service of praise to God for his blessings on your life
- \_\_\_\_\_ A celebration of Jesus' love and righteousness
- \_\_\_\_\_ An opportunity for those around you to hear God's clear law and sweet gospel
- \_\_\_\_\_ An outreach event

How can you help insure that your funeral accomplishes the purposes that give God glory?

**Activity:** Plan your funeral (see handout).

**Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, You have made us as Your own, redeemed us when we rebelled against You, paying with the blood of your Son, and You have called us Your own children. Our lives and deaths are in Your hand. Help us to be comforted in that knowledge and to live our lives according to it and be ready to die in that same comfort. Bless our time in your Word this morning that we continue to grow in our understanding of what Your power over all things means for our lives. In Christ, Amen.**

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