

# **“Wilderness Rising- Death to Life”**

**April 19- May 24**

## **Goal:**

Engage in discussing matters, theology, feelings, preparations, and realities of our human deaths covering the following broad topics in greater detail:

## **Format:**

45 minute long Zoom Session following each Sunday fellowship time ~11:30-12:15 am.

Each week a presenter, and a moderator will guide the discussion and monitor our time together

~20-25 minute presentations

~20-25 minute discussion to follow.

## **Weekly Themes & Foci:**

### **Afterlife...**

April 19     ...*Attitudes, perspectives and views of the Afterlife:*  
Introducing the series; exploring ideas around the Afterlife;  
What do we think we know? What do we and others believe?  
(Jeff Carr & Andy Sale as speakers)

April 26     ...*In light of a Resurrection faith:*  
Christian, Reformed and Biblical Views of the After Life  
(Bill Reinhold & Andy Sale as speakers)

### **Dying...**

May 3        ...*Theological, Social and Cultural Attitudes:*  
Addressing the questions: What is death? When does it occur?  
(Jeff Carr as speaker)

May 10       ...*A medical perspective:*  
What happens to our bodies, and what providers want to know  
Provider-Patient Relations and Advance Medical Directives  
(Dr. Steve Rinehart as speaker)

### **Life Before... and...After Death...**

May 17       ...*Wills, Estate Planning, Executors, and implications for survivors*  
(Attorney as speaker)

May 24       ... *A witness to the Resurrection and beyond:*  
Funerals, Burial and the ongoing accompaniment of grief  
(Stephanie Sorge as speaker)

## Resources:

### Scripture

Many References, but especially  
+ I Corinthians, Chapter 15

### Books

- + *Making Faithful Decisions at the End of Life*. Duff – online \$7.49 to 13.00
- + *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande
- + *Once More we saw Stars* by Jayson Greene
- + *Let's Talk About Death Over Dinner*, Hebb- online \$7.29 to \$13.00
- + *When Breath Becomes Air*, by Paul Kalanithi  
*Paul Kalanithi's memoir of his final years as he faced lung cancer at age 37, was published posthumously, in 2016, to critical acclaim and commercial success.*
- + *American Way of Death Revisited*, 1996, by Jessica Mitford  
An updating of her classic written in 1996 regarding the influence of the funeral industry.
- + *How We Die*, Nuland – online \$4.99 - \$13.00
- + *The Grace in Dying : How We Are Transformed Spiritually as We Die* by Kathleen D. Singh
- + *Will The Circle Be Unbroken?* Studs Turkle interviews of variety of beliefs for the afterlife

### Online Sites/Podcasts/Talks/Blogs

- + <https://deathverdinner.org/> online discussion of death and its personal meaning
- + <https://fivewishes.org/five-wishes/individuals-families/individuals-and-families/advance-care-planning>
- + <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/duke-university/everything-happens-with-kate-bowler>  
*Podcast from Kate Bowler, a professor at Duke Divinity school, who was diagnosed with aggressive stage 4 cancer at age 35 - she has conversations with many different people around these issues*
- + Further Reflections from Jayson Greene: <https://nyti.ms/2T85lqL>
- + Music for Healing and Transition [www.mhpt.org](http://www.mhpt.org) & <http://www.healingharpmelodies.org/>  
*Organizations and Projects involving VA Bethune, emphasizing the power, importance and significance of music at these pivotal transition points.*

### Forms and Resources

- + Prompting Questions on Conversation about Death- (handout for first seminar)