

THE LAST VICTORY  
A FUNERAL PLANNING WORKSHOP

**SESSION I: Seven Myths about Death, Dying and Funerals**

**MYTH 1: Death is natural.**

- It is not natural or good. This is materialism.
- Death is the punishment for sin.
  - If you eat of it you will surely die.
  - The wages of sin is death.
- Death is the enemy of God and His people.
- Praise be to God that death has been defeated through Jesus death and resurrection.

**MYTH 2: After death, a Christian will be judged.**

- St Peter at the gates, “Why should I let you in?”
- No. We pass from death to life.
- Jesus, on the cross, was judged for us, in our place, and all of the wrath that we deserved we dished out to Him.
- “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

**MYTH 3: When you die you become an angel.**

- “Now they have their wings.” “Now auntie Josephiniette is looking over us.”
- Angels are angels, people are people.
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**MYTH 4: When you die you are through with your body.**

- No: resurrection.
- Dualism, gnosticism, Greek and new age thought: the soul escapes.
- “Throw me in the lake, whatever.”
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**MYTH 5: Cremation is a sin.**

**MYTH 6: Funerals are for the living and not for the dead.**

- Funerals are primarily for the dead. We are treating the body with care and giving it the dignity that the baptism and the resurrection call for.
- Sermon, Scripture, etc. bring comfort to the church on earth.

**MYTH 7: Christians should not mourn or be sad. Funerals are a celebration.**

- Celebration of life.
- Jesus wept. [John 8: ]