

PARENT / TEACHER LESSON PLANS

FOR
**HIGH
SCHOOL**
STUDENTS

HOLY
BIBLE

EUTHANASIA



Summary

Students are given an introduction to euthanasia and assisted suicide from a biblical perspective. Students are assigned one of ten videos to view and complete a summary assignment on. Students then run a series of corresponding letters to educate others.

<p>Essential Question</p>	<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>What should Christians do now that assisted suicide is legal in Canada?</i></p> <hr/> <p>This question is intended to go along with the middle ten parts of ARPA's Palliative Care video series. It is intended to get students thinking about contributing in their own way to ensuring that the compassionate alternative of palliative care is the expected norm in their community.</p>
<p>Summary</p>	<p>Students are given an introduction to euthanasia and assisted suicide from a biblical perspective. Students are assigned one of ten videos to view and complete a summary assignment on. Students then run a series of corresponding letters to educate others.</p>
<p>Engage the Students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute <i>Handout 1 – introduction</i> to students and briefly discuss the significance of being made in God's image.
<p>Explore the video series</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are asked to choose one of Parts 2-11 to complete a review on. Their task is to view the video several times and to present to the class their findings. • Distribute <i>Handout 2 – Video Review</i>. This handout has a detailed outline on what is required in the assignment.
<p>Task</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each student should follow this up by writing an informative school newsletter article about their video they reviewed. An emphasis in these articles should be a tone of creating love and support for those who are feeling alone. • Try and run these articles in your school newsletter. • Alternatively, you can have your students write them as informative letters to the editor and publish them weekly in your local newspaper.
<p>Video Series</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction: https://youtu.be/20EfBwgplYs 2. Part 2: https://youtu.be/zsoJXN9ULaE Interview with mother and daughter of Jason Linde who passed away after a six-year battle with ALS. 3. Part 3: https://youtu.be/Lrps8vR1uOU interview with Pieter Harsevoort, an elementary school teacher in Hamilton, ON who described himself as receiving palliative care his entire life. 4. Part 4: https://youtu.be/X0HqyakKOI4 A look at what palliative care looks like for the elderly, and how the offer of assisted suicide places intolerable burdens on our seniors 5. Part 5: https://youtu.be/k-1pX6bXpLE A chat with palliative nurse Gayle Jensen van Doorn

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Part 6: https://youtu.be/uRduj-HNP00 A conversation with palliative care nurse Helen Van Dyk.7. Part 7: https://youtu.be/PZltYkF0w4I A conversation with palliative care Dr. Neil Hilliard.8. Part 8: https://youtu.be/G4a3tIHjGwQ Dr. Theodore Van Raalte provides a call to the church on how to respond to the new culture of assisted suicide.9. Part 9: https://youtu.be/mZHLwrhNOEI Rick Ludwig, funeral home director, shares his perspective on the importance and value of palliative care.10. Part 10: https://youtu.be/r7gyydN8FrE Palliative care home nurse Helen 't Hart talks about the wonderful opportunity in home care.11. Part 11: https://youtu.be/4ki3ceRc-oc A conversation with policy specialist Ray Pennings.12. Part 12: https://youtu.be/Invs2dVdo2c Conclusion
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Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide Introduction

Throughout our lives we struggle with the brokenness that comes from sin. Many people have been given very difficult burdens resulting from poor health, old age, or abandonment. Some who struggle with these burdens feel that life is not worth living, or that their lives are too much of a burden on their families or society in general.

Political support for assisted suicide and euthanasia is growing. Countries like Switzerland, Holland and Belgium and Canada have already legalized some forms of euthanasia and many others are considering it.

The Bible is clear that we have intrinsic worth because of God's special relationship with us. Genesis 1 explains that He made us in His image which means that we reflect many of the attributes of God through our dominion over creation, our creativity, intellect, righteousness, and holiness (having been set apart from the rest of creation), to name but a few distinctions. In

short, our dignity cannot be lost because of a disease which takes away our ability to make decisions for ourselves. Regardless of whether we are young or old, disabled or healthy, we must all be treated with dignity because we were all made by God. Even after the fall into sin and before the sixth commandment was given on Mount Sinai, God warned Noah, "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man." A Biblical view of human dignity realizes that we do not possess dignity because of our own worthiness. Our depravity is evident in everything we do and would surely have removed any dignity that we possessed. But even after the fall into sin we still possess the image of God, as made clear in the text just quoted. We have dignity only because God continues to have a special relationship with humanity. Christians should stand out from all others by reflecting who God really is to a world that is lost in darkness.

Palliative Care: The Compassionate Alternative Video Series

1. Introduction: <https://youtu.be/20EfBwqplYs>
2. Part 2: <https://youtu.be/zsojXN9ULaE> Interview with mother and daughter of Jason Linde who passed away after a six-year battle with ALS.
3. Part 3: <https://youtu.be/Lrps8vR1uOU> interview with Pieter Harsevoort, an elementary school teacher in Hamilton, ON who described himself as receiving palliative care his entire life.
4. Part 4: <https://youtu.be/X0HQyakK0I4> A look at what palliative care looks like for the elderly, and how the offer of assisted suicide places intolerable burdens on our seniors
5. Part 5: <https://youtu.be/k-1pX6bXpLE> A chat with palliative nurse Gayle Jensen van Doorn
6. Part 6: <https://youtu.be/uRduj-HNPO0> A conversation with palliative care nurse Helen Van Dyk.
7. Part 7: <https://youtu.be/PZltYkF0w4I> A conversation with palliative care Dr. Neil Hilliard.
8. Part 8: <https://youtu.be/G4a3tIHjGwQ> Dr. Theodore Van Raalte provides a call to the church on how to respond to the new culture of assisted suicide.
9. Part 9: <https://youtu.be/mZHLwrhNOEI> Rick Ludwig, funeral home director, shares his perspective on the importance and value of palliative care.
10. Part 10: <https://youtu.be/r7gyydN8FrE> Helen 't Hart talks about the wonderful opportunity in home care
11. Part 11: <https://youtu.be/4ki3ceRc-oc> A conversation with policy specialist Ray Pennings.
- Part 12: <https://youtu.be/lnvs2dVdo2c> Conclusion

Video Review

Your task is to review one of the ten videos (Parts 2-11) of the ARPA video series “Palliative Care: The Compassionate Alternative”.

Various points that you should bring up in your report are:

- 1) Provide the details of the speaker (name, where are they from, what occupation). In short, give us some good information on who this person is.
- 2) How do they define palliative care in their life?
- 3) How are they connected to the area of palliative care? What’s their challenge with it? What’s their role or work?
- 4) According to your interviewee, why do people choose euthanasia? Is there any evidence to suggest how these people came to consider euthanasia?
- 5) What appears to be this person’s outlook on life? How do they view life?
- 6) How have these people experienced the love and support of community in their life? If this is not answered, how does your interviewee describe love and support of community?
- 7) According to your interviewee, what are the challenges to implementing increased levels of palliative care?
- 8) Does this person provide practical recommendations about what we as a community or church could do?
- 9) Based on the video and what you have learned, what advice could you give to somebody who was considering assisted suicide?
- 10) Were there any references to Christianity? If so, what role did they play?
- 11) Pick a clip that is approximately fifteen seconds long that really made an impression on you and play that for the class.
- 12) Share a quote from the video and why you picked it.