Genesis 23

The door at the end of life

2 July 2017

## The door, from ..... viewpoint

..... your pain is God's way of ..... your pain

Jesus . . . . . . John 11:35

God did not promise days without pain; laughter without sorrow; sun without rain. But He did promise strength for the day; comfort for the pain; and light for the way.

Only by the death of the ..... can we inherit...

When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I have not a single bit of talent left and could say, 'I used everything You gave me.' Erma Bombeck

## The door, from ..... viewpoint

We are confident and courageous. The advantage of being absent from the body is to be at home with the Lord. 2 Corinthians 5:8

..... of Pergatory. 1 Cor.15:3, Rom.5:10, 2 Cor.5:21, 1 Jn.5:11-12

## I will . . . . . attend my own funeral

We know for certain that when this earthly tent, in which we now live, finally decays, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Corinthians 5:1

## The door, from ..... viewpoint

To live is Christ. To die is ..... Philippians 1:21

'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord!' Matthew 25:21,23

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will dwell among them, and they will be His people. God himself will be with them. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All those things are gone forever." Revelation 21:3-4 My prayer focus for this week, 2~8 July 2017

For personal reflection or group discussion

- 1. What is the best, and the worst, thing about attending a funeral?
- 2. Why is "Don't cry" the worst thing you can say to a sad person?
- 3. What are some more helpful things you could say?
- 4. Why is the saying, "Feeling your pain, is God's way of healing your pain", a helpful statement?
- 5. "Jesus wept." (John 11:35) Jesus knew He was about to resurrect Lazarus, so why do you think He cried at the grave?
- 6. What are some advantages/disadvantages of burial or cremation? Which do you prefer for yourself?
- 7. Read 2 Corinthians 5:8. Which words in this verse do you find most comforting or encouraging?
- 8. Read Philippians 1:21. List some practical ways of "to live is Christ"? What do you expect from "to die is gain"?

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