



Christian Principles *for* PALLIATIVE CARE

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Reviews of Christian Principles for Palliative Care

Dr. Ney, a psychiatrist who has been in practice over 40 years, routinely treated suicidal patients. Of the thousands he has treated, he says he has "never met anybody who wanted to be dead." We then ask why are euthanasia and assisted suicide becoming a desirable option instead of accepting the process of natural death? Why do the most vulnerable in our society, the elderly, and the disabled, feel they are a burden and have a duty to die? The most troubling concerns relating to death, the dying and the condemned to die are the focus of this book. This is an extraordinary contribution to the subject of life, death and dying. Dr. Ney takes us seamlessly from our first beginnings to our God given destiny, should we choose right.

The twelve principles outlined are not sugar coated. They are serious, no nonsense, innovational principles, that challenge us to re-evaluate our motives, convictions, and how we conduct our lives. Whether the reader is a physician or a patient, we are given substantial reasons why we need to examine how we live and how we contemplate dying and death. To live by these well defined principles can surely lead to a restored reverence and appreciation of human life.

Cheryl M. Eckstein, Founder and CEO The Compassionate Healthcare Network (CHN)

Dr. Ney is a very experienced psychiatrist, professor and author. He has thought and taught for many years about the concepts presented in this book. He writes on some familiar themes like forgiveness and reconciliation, though with new insight from the Scripture in light of his long experience and struggle to understand people. Also presented here are many original ideas e.g. the impact of abortion on other children in the family and the Universal Ethic of Mutual Benefit — which he has discovered through research and clinical practice. More than that, however, he gives a wonderful and powerfully positive view of the dignity of the person based on Christian principles. These teachings will change your perspective on end of life issues. The Ten Ultimate Tasks for a Healthy Ending of Life outline the fundamental goals of palliative care in a unique blend of human realism and Scriptural hopefulness. Otherwise I will refund your money myself!

Mel Hoskyn is a public school teacher and pastor and now a certified Hope Alive counsellor putting these principles into practice.