

The background features several large, stylized, overlapping swirls in shades of purple, green, and light blue. Scattered throughout the scene are numerous small, yellow, triangular shapes that resemble confetti or light rays, adding a celebratory or bright feel to the design.

Death and Dying

Some attitudes towards death

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- 28245 people died in New Zealand last year
 - 141225 New Zealanders are in some way grieving
 - It often sets in when people stop making muffins, sending cards and popping in.
 - Love is a mixed tape

There has been a decline in religious belief

- Many people are not sure about life after death
- Formerly widely held Christian beliefs about death, the reality of heaven, and the resurrection of the body are less common
- Secularisation of society- loss of values base

Personal contact with death is not as common as it used to be

- Before advances of medicine, most families lost children and family members
- Familiarity with death – it took place in the home
- Fewer overt signs of mourning
- Race to get back to 'normal'

New Zealand society has dehumanised death.

- 90% of deaths occur in hospital away from familiar environment
- Terminally ill are 'handed over' to an institution
- Families are often geographically and sometimes socially dispersed
- The funeral home experience can soften the reality of death

The reality of death is denied

- Death can be an experience that belongs to movies, where it is made glossy
- New Zealanders are often encouraged to hide feelings
- Our lifestyle often denies pain and sorrow

Does life continue after death?

- There is evidence from as long as 100,000 years ago that prehistoric man believed in some sort of greater or higher purpose for the human person following death.
- This can be seen in.....



Life after death

- Ancient People buried their dead in graves that contained food, tools and weapons
- Ancient Egyptian tombs have been found with jewellery, clothing, food and even horses
- Neolithic burial sites dating from 5,000BCE contain bodies seated with food and weapons



Our attitude to death has a
profound effect on our attitude
to life!

Jesus said,

“I came that you might have life, and
have it to the full.”

- *John 10:10*