

“REFLECTIONS ON SPIRITUAL DISTRESS AT THE END OF LIFE”

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Reflective Quotes

“It is not my intention to give away the plot,
but I think I die at the end.” Margaret Edson

“I thought being extremely smart would take care of it.
But I see I have been found out.” Margaret Edson

“Anguish is sudden fear, but also regret, the experience of
looking back at our lives and wishing we had seized this or
that chance to be more human, more fully ourselves.”
Jean Vanier

“I’m scared. Oh God, I want ... I want ...
No, I want to hide.
I just want to curl up in a little ball.” Margaret Edson

Now is the time for simplicity. Now is the time for,
dare I say it ... kindness.” Margaret Edson

“If you become a bird and fly away from me,”
said his mother, “I will be a tree that you can come
home to.” Margaret Weiss Brown

“Goodnight stars
Goodnight air
Goodnight noises everywhere.”
Margaret Weiss Brown

REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

This workshop is intended to be interactive. In order to participate fully, you should reflect on the following questions as they will be the basis for our discussion following the presentation.

1. Are you able to recognize and / or identify spiritual distress?
2. What are the indicators of spiritual distress?
3. Is spiritual distress always related to death?
4. Can you make a care plan for spiritual distress?
5. How do you answer the question, “Why?”
6. Is it the chaplain’s sole responsibility to deal with a patient’s spiritual distress?
7. What personal and / or professional experiences have you had with death?
8. Will it matter that we lived?

1. Wit, by Margaret Edson
2. The Runaway Bunny, by Margaret Weiss Brown
3. Jean Vanier: A Conversation Begins, The Globe and Mail, September 6, 2008
4. Goodnight Moon, by Margaret Weiss Brown