

## A THEOLOGY OF

# DEATH

## PURPOSE, PREPARATION, AND HOPE

### WEEK ONE: THE CAUSE OF DEATH

Writer and theologian J.I. Packer has said, “In today’s world, death is the great unmentionable, just as sex was a hundred years ago.” In the 21st Century, death is all around us — in the news, culture, and media. But how often do we actually stop and take time to talk about our own death? By refusing to disregard death, the church can become better equipped to understand the purpose of death, prepare ourselves for our death and the deaths of near to us, and have our minds renewed with a biblical, hope-filled perspective. And to do that, we have to go back to the Fall — when sin entered the universe and brought about death.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you consider yourself familiar with death and dying? What experience, if any, do you have of death?
2. Have you thought much about the possibility of your own death, or do you mostly disregard it? How do you think it might be a good thing to think through and discuss this not-usually-discussed topic?
3. What do you fear about death? Do you think those fears have come from the influence of the world around you or from Scripture?
4. How should being a Christian and a member of the church make the way(s) you approach death and dying different?

### COMMIT TO MEMORY

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned — Romans 5:12