

What Should a Christian Think About MAID?

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 34:18; James 2:15–16; Romans 12:15

Pastor Alan Feere · Sunday Evening · October 18, 2026

INTRODUCTION

The Bible is plain that we are made in the image of God. That alone gives life great value. I am a child of God. I am bought with a price. I am not my own. I believe that life is sacred, that God is the giver and taker of life. I in no way condone MAID or suicide as a solution to any situation, but I have much more compassion toward one who is terminally ill and suffering. I don't agree... but I can understand.

I. The _____ — Understanding MAID

- Definition: Medical Assistance in Dying, legalized federally in Canada in 2016; clinician-administered or self-administered; treated in law as a regulated medical service
- Eligibility: 18 or older and capable; a serious and incurable illness, disease or disability; irreversible decline; enduring, intolerable suffering; voluntary, with informed consent
- Track 1: natural death is reasonably foreseeable. Track 2: it is not; additional safeguards apply (a terminal illness is not required)
- As of October 15, 2026, mental illness as the sole underlying condition remains excluded; the scheduled date of March 17, 2027 has been subject to further parliamentary review

II. The _____ — Measuring the Scope

- 76,475 MAID provisions 2016–2024; 5.1% of all Canadian deaths in 2024 (+6.9% over 2023)
- Annual growth: 2019 – 5,461 · 2020 – 7,469 · 2021 – 10,066 · 2022 – 13,199 · 2023 – 15,427 · 2024 – 16,499
- 2024: Track 1 – 15,767 (95.6%) · Track 2 – 732 (4.4%)
- Cancer was the most reported condition in Track 1 (63.6%)

III. The _____ — Our Final Authority

A. The Source of Life — God's _____

1. Who Created? (Genesis 1:27; Psalm 100:3)
2. Who Controls? (Deuteronomy 32:39)

B. The Suffering of Life — Humanity's _____

The question of MAID comes down to: how do we deal with suffering Biblically?

1. Despair – Elijah wished to die (1 Kings 19:4)
2. Distress and Disease – Job (Job 3:11)

3. Divine Comfort (Psalm 34:18; 1 Peter 5:7)

Psalm 34:18 *The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.*

4. Divine Purpose (James 4:13–14)

Hezekiah (Isaiah 38) prayed and wept and God gave him 15 more years! Jonah and Elijah longed for death, but never orchestrated their own death.

C. The _____ of Life — Moral Responsibility

1. Respect – Human life bears God’s image (Genesis 9:6)
2. Restraint – The commandment against murder (Exodus 20:13)
3. Responsibility – Caring for those in need

D. The _____ of MAID — Ethical Examination

1. Autonomy – What are the limits of personal choice? (Isaiah 45:9; Romans 9:20–21; Psalm 24:1)
2. Authority – Who has the final moral authority over life? (1 Corinthians 6:19–20)

Palliative care and the withdrawal of treatment, especially painful and fruitless treatment, is not the same as actively pursuing death as a relief to suffering.

3. Accountability – Does the fact that it is legal make it morally right for Christians? (Acts 5:29; Romans 14:12; Proverbs 14:12)

This is more than simply a matter of right and wrong, it is also about accepting God’s will for our life! (Matthew 6:10; Luke 22:42)

E. The _____ of Compassion — The Christian Response

1. Presence – Be near to those who suffer (Romans 12:15)
2. Practical help – Meet tangible needs (James 2:15–16)
3. Protection – Speak for the vulnerable (Proverbs 31:8–9)
4. Proclamation – Offer the hope of Christ (Matthew 11:28–30; 2 Corinthians 4:16–18)
5. Prayer – Bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2)

Conclusion

Human life has God-given value · Suffering deserves compassionate care · The vulnerable must not be abandoned

MY NOTES
