

ENGAGE WITH GRACE

DISCUSSION GUIDE • QUESTION 2

If there were a choice, would you prefer to die at home or in a hospital?

Picture yourself at the end of life:

- Where are you? What is surrounding you?
- Do you know anyone who has passed at home? What did you like about their experience? What not?
- Many people say the benefits of a hospital setting are:
 - Constant medical care?
 - Consistent access to doctors?
 - Lack of dependence on self or others for food and shelter?
- Many people say the benefits of a home setting are:
 - Being in a familiar setting?
 - Having loved ones in close proximity?
 - Seeing medical professionals in a comfortable space?

Picture your loved ones:

- What about your family – do you know how they'd prefer to care for you?
- Is there someone who could serve as your caretaker?
- Would a loved one feel comfortable advocating on your behalf, even if medical professionals suggest a different course of action?

One exercise that might help you think through your preferences for an end of life experience can be found at: <http://www.mycarecommunity.org/MakingDecisions/AdvancePlanningToolKit/DiscussingBeliefsandValues/tabid/518/Default.aspx#end>

