

INTERGRATING SPIRITUALITY IN PALLIATIVE CARE WITHOUT INJURING PATIENT CARE

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENTATION

- 1. Definitions of Terms : Palliative Care Ministry, Spirituality and Spirituality in the Christian context, Patient and Patient Care.**
- 2. What does Palliative Care entails**
- 3. The 21st Good Samaritan Church**
- 4. Feedback from Traditional & Church leaders Palliative Workshop**
- 5. Integrating Spirituality in the Atheism world**

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Definitions of Terms

□ Palliative Care :

Comprehensive care: includes managing physical, psychological, spiritual, and social needs through evidence-based interventions. **Interprofessional Collaboration:** Effective palliative care relies on cohesive teamwork among physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, and chaplains etc. Palliative care is a multidisciplinary approach aimed at improving the quality of life for patients facing serious, chronic, or life-limiting illnesses

Palliative care improves the quality of life of patients and that of their families who are facing challenges associated with life-threatening illness, whether physical, psychological, social or spiritual. The quality of life of caregivers improves as well.

Each year, an estimated 56.8 million people, including 25.7 million in the last year of life, are in need of palliative care.

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DEFINITION OF TERMS : SPIRITUALITY

Spirituality refers to an individual's search for meaning and connection beyond the physical world, while religion is an organized system of beliefs and practices often centered around a higher power.

Defining Spirituality

Spirituality encompasses a broad range of experiences and beliefs that relate to the search for meaning, purpose, and connection to something greater than oneself. It is often characterized by a subjective experience of the sacred and can include personal growth, a quest for ultimate meaning, and a sense of interconnectedness with the universe. Unlike organized religion, spirituality does not adhere to a specific doctrine or set of rules, allowing for a more flexible and individual approach to exploring one's beliefs and values.

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SPIRITUALITY IN A CHRISTIAN CONTEXT

- ❑ In Christianity, spirituality refers to a deep, personal relationship with God, characterized by faith, prayer, and the transformative power of the Holy Spirit.**
 - ❑ Key Aspects of Christian Spirituality**
 - ❑ The Use of Holy Scriptures and Biblical Foundations**
 - ❑ Role of the Holy Spirit**
 - ❑ Personal Relationship with God**
 - ❑ Integration of Life**
 - ❑ Practical Expressions**
 - ❑ Community and Fellowship**

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Definition of Terms : Patient Care

Patient care refers to the services provided to patients to ensure their health and well-being during their time in a healthcare setting. This encompasses a wide range of activities, including diagnosis, treatment, and ongoing support for various medical, emotional, psychological and spiritual conditions. The primary goal of patient care is to enhance the quality of life for patients while promoting recovery and maintaining health.

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What does Palliative Care Entails/Components of Palliative Care

- ❑ Symptoms Management**
- ❑ Spiritual Emotional, and Psychological Support**
- ❑ Communication**
- ❑ Coordination of Care**
- ❑ Cultural and Religious Competence: Palliative Care must be sensitive to the cultural and spiritual needs of patients. This include understanding and respecting diverse beliefs and practices, which can significantly impact care preferences and decisions**
- ❑ Support of Families**
- ❑ Care in the Dying Phase**
- ❑ Bereavement [Caring for the family, Care givers, etc]**

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The 21st Good Samaritan Church

The Botswana Ministry of Health has just ended APCA Conference [African International Palliative Care Conference and Allied Services] which was held from the 23rd -26th SEPT 2025.

Concern : By the year 2040 - The Researchers are confirming that about 77 Million of people will be suffering from terminally diseases the worldwide.

The Presence of the Church : The Church is needed to re-define and play its role efficiently and effectively with and among the multi-religious society.

How can the Church partner with other religions without selling their birthright

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☐ Trained Pastors, Deacons on Palliative Care -

☐ Is it Theological accurate to say “We have terminally diseases whereas the Christian God is the Healer

☐ How far do the miracles work?

☐ How do you understand this Faith Statement “ My grace is sufficient” Is this promise contains healing or God is avoiding to attend a problem at hand?

☐ Patient Lead Approach - This is the greatest opportunity to research a lot about a patient [Emotions, Peace at home, Survivals and or coping skills mechanism etc during illness phase]before giving assistance

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Feedback from Traditional & Church leaders Palliative Workshop

- ❑ Most of the Pastors were from the New Ministries and for them they believed in Prophetic healing, deliverance**
- ❑ We discussed 2 Kings 20: 1-11 [God provided his Healing through the Word & a Cake of figs]**
- ❑ Traditional Healers – believe that they have the power to heal terminal illness –Call it “Phologolo” literally meaning an “animal”**
- ❑ Problem : They complain that they are not been given space to perform their role in modern scientific world**
- ❑ They fear to share their knowledge as they believe other people will steal and use it.**

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Integrating Spirituality in the Atheism world

□ How can the Church minister to a suffering person who happens to be an atheist ?