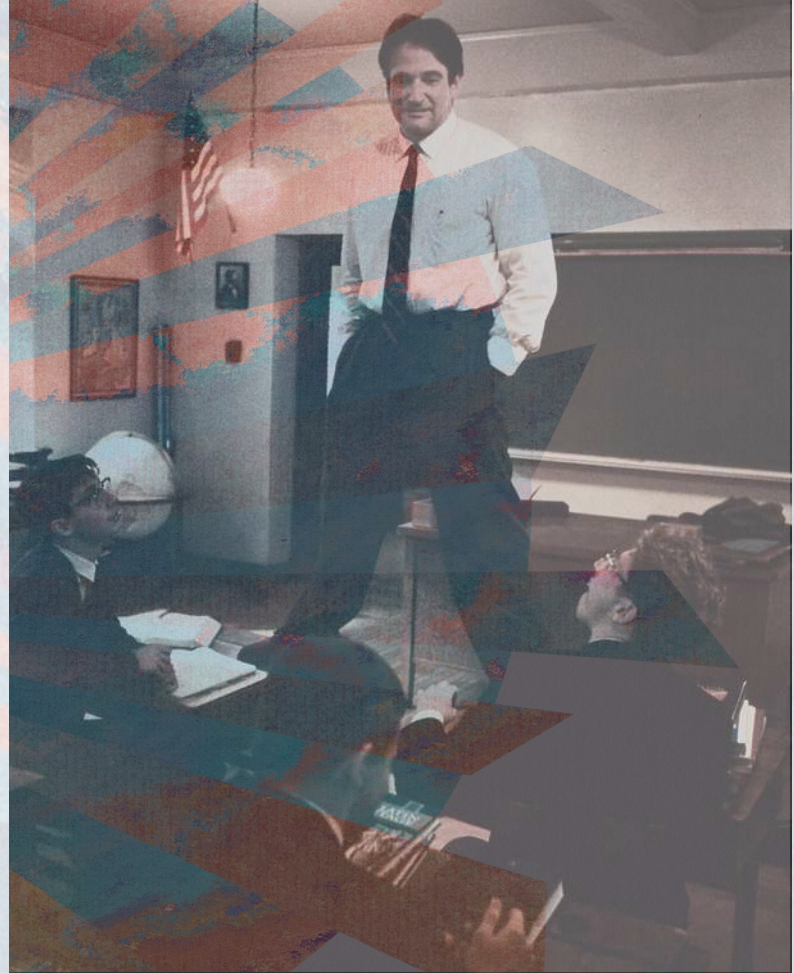


field guide

EASTER

▶ **expedition**

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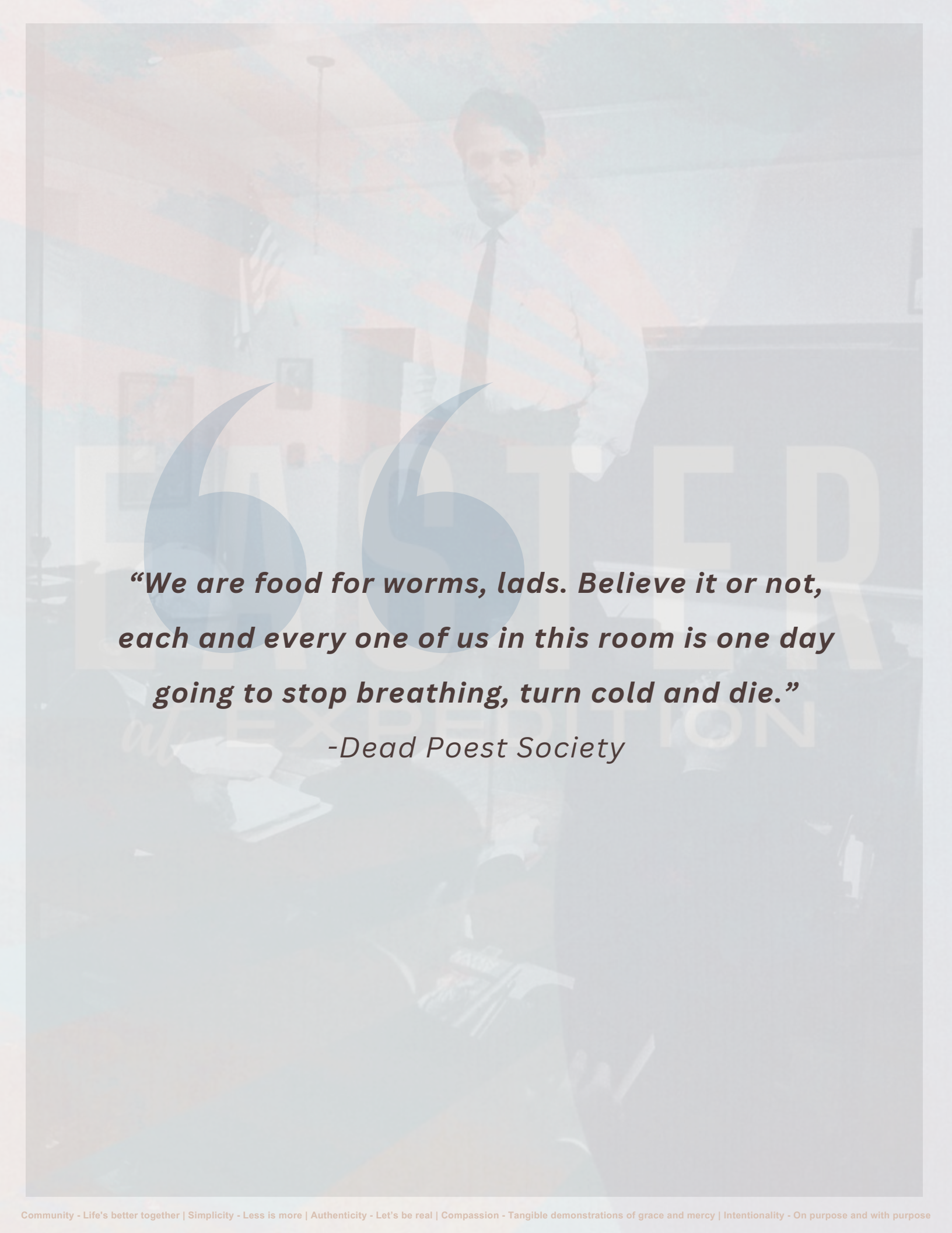


Dead Poets Society

- Robin Williams played Professor John Keating in the iconic movie Dead Poets Society.
- He's an eccentric English teacher who attempts to connect with and inspire his students through unconventional methods.
- During his first class, he brings them into a hallway filled with photos and trophies of former students who have long since died. Mr. Keating invites them to lean in and to look into the eyes of the young men who are now dead and feeding the daffodils. He says... "We are food for worms, lads. Believe it or not, each and every one of us in this room is one day going to stop breathing, turn cold and die."
- Because of this truth, his encouragement is that they would "Carpe Diem... Seize the day."

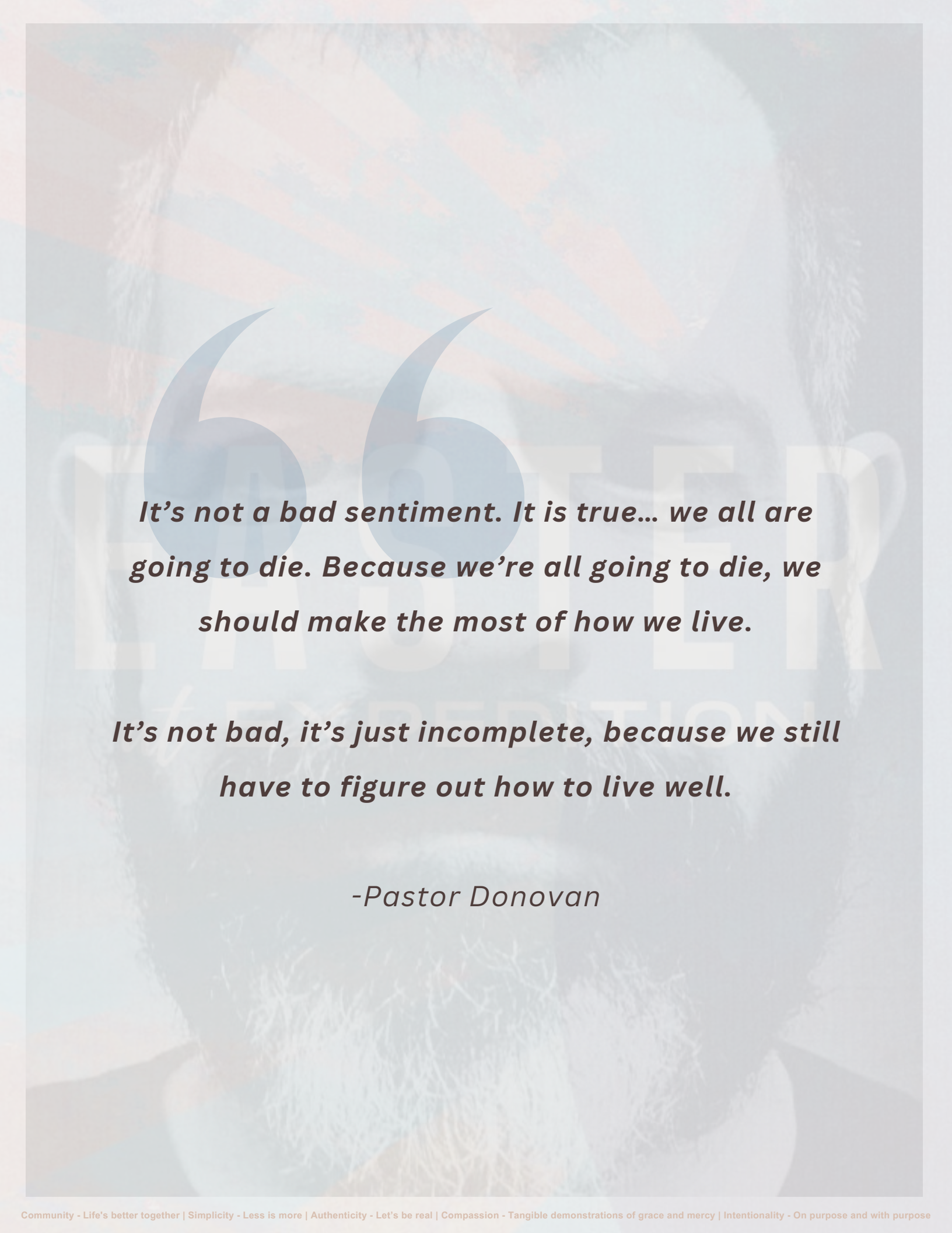
He's trying to get these young men to avoid a wasted life. He's wants them to have a meaningful life. His encouragement to the young men is essentially, "You're going to die, so live well."





“We are food for worms, lads. Believe it or not, each and every one of us in this room is one day going to stop breathing, turn cold and die.”

-Dead Poest Society



It's not a bad sentiment. It is true... we all are going to die. Because we're all going to die, we should make the most of how we live.

It's not bad, it's just incomplete, because we still have to figure out how to live well.

-Pastor Donovan

***[24] Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
[25] For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.***

Matthew 16:24–25



Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

John 12:24



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Seed Germination

- Jesus is describing a process we call germination.
- If you remember biology class, a seed goes into the dirt and there's a tiny, dramatic saga happening beneath the soil.
- The seed has to “die” in order for it bring about new life. So it dies to live.

To truly live, the seed has to leave its old self behind. There has to be death before there can be life. The grain dying is actually a really good thing because it brings about new life, more life, better life.

That's the story of the resurrection... Jesus dies to offer new life.



WHAT JESUS DOES

You can't resurrect something that's living. You can only resurrect something that's dead. The only way to resurrect something that's dead is for something that's alive to die.

Your life doesn't need tweaking. It doesn't need an adjustment. It needs a complete and total overhaul. It needs a resurrection.

Without first dying, you will never be able to truly live. You have to die to live.

Some of you will be seed that never experiences new life because you're not willing to get buried in the dirt.



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Nike VP

- Westin Bonnaventure Downtown Los Angeles.
- Frankly, I felt sorry for him. He was seizing the day, but it was empty.
- There was no life to his life.

It's not what God wanted for him and it's not what God wants for you.

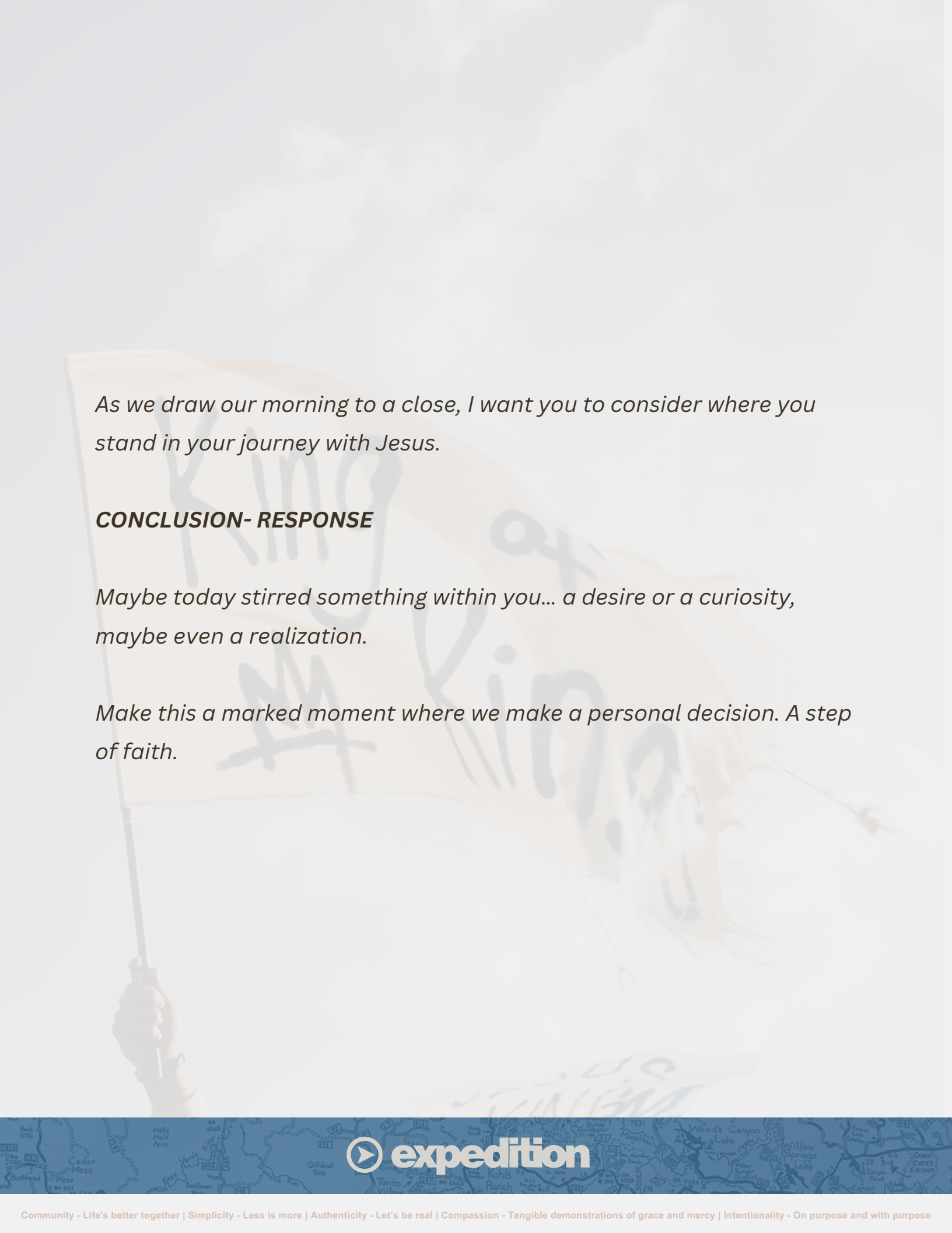


*The best news you will ever hear in your entire life from the
Apostle Paul...*

***... if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation. The old has
passed away (died); behold, the new has come.***

2 Corinthians 5:17





As we draw our morning to a close, I want you to consider where you stand in your journey with Jesus.

CONCLUSION- RESPONSE

Maybe today stirred something within you... a desire or a curiosity, maybe even a realization.

Make this a marked moment where we make a personal decision. A step of faith.



Questions:

- How does "seizing the day" align with Jesus' call to deny oneself, and where might it conflict in your life?
- What does losing your life for Jesus' sake mean to you, and how does it challenge societal views of success?
- Can you share how an ending or "death" in your life led to new growth, similar to a seed's germination?
- In what areas of your life do you feel a need for the radical transformation Jesus talks about?
- What personal decision or step of faith does this sermon inspire in you, and how can believers support each other in this journey?