

## See You in Heaven

Across the dinner table from Philip Yancey sat a veteran who had fought in the Battle of the Bulge. The battle had been so chaotic, the veteran told Yancey, that taking prisoners had been impossible. Instead, his unit had been sent out each morning to kill wounded German prisoners.

On one of these search-and-kill mornings, Yancey's dinner companion had found a German soldier, sitting with his back against a tree—not wounded, but too exhausted to move. Yancey's friend raised his gun to shoot.

"Wait a minute," said the German soldier in perfect English. "Give me a moment to pray."

"Are you a Christian?" asked Yancey's friend.

"Yes," said the German.

So Yancey's friend, also a Christian, sat beside the German. They read their Bibles together, and they prayed. They showed each other their family pictures. And they prayed for each other's families.

"Then what?" asked Yancey.

"Then I stood up," said Yancey's friend. "And I said, 'You are a Christian, and I am a Christian. I'll see you in heaven.' And then, I blew his brains out."