**Live as if you’ll die today**

In the book, “Tuesdays with Morrie” by Mitch Albom, Mitch’s old college professor, Morrie Schwartz, is diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease. The doctors tell Morrie that he possibly has 2 years to live. After sixteen years of no contact to each other, Mitch and Morrie are reunited. Mitch visits Morrie every Tuesday. On the visits Morrie tells Mitch about his life and what he has learned from his past. Through Morrie’s wisdom about life and forgiveness I believe that Mitch Albom is saying to enjoy life and live life to the fullest.

On the fourth Tuesday Mitch and Morrie talk about death. Morrie knows that he is going to die. He tells Mitch, “Once you learn how to die, you learn how to live” (page 82). I think that this is telling us that when someone knows that they are going to die they change their perspective about life. They want to be remembered and make every second count.

On the fifth Tuesday they talk about family. Morrie is sad about leaving his family when he dies. He hopes that they will remember him and be able to move on. During their conversation Morrie says, “Love each other or perish without love we are birds with broken wings” (page 91 and 92). Mitch realizes that Morrie is telling him that people depend on each other. People can’t get through hard times alone. They need love and support from the ones they love.

On the twelfth Tuesday they talk about forgiveness. Morrie is telling Mitch a story about him and his old friend, Norman. Morrie and his friend lost contact after Norman and his wife moved to Chicago. Later Morrie’s wife had surgery, Norman and his wife knew about the operation but never contacted them to see how they were doing. Morrie and his wife were hurt because Norman and his wife never called to check-up on them after the surgery, they then dropped the relationship. While Morrie is talking about forgiveness he says, “Forgive yourself before you die. Then forgive others” (page 164). Norman tried to apologize about not contacting them but Morrie never accepted the apology. Morrie finally decided to tell Norman that he forgave him, but Norman had passed away. Morrie never got to tell Norman that he forgave him. Mitch learns that people should forgive others who have hurt them in the past, if they wait too long it might be too late.

Mitch learned many things about life from Morrie. Mitch and Morrie had a great friendship. Mitch called Morrie “Coach,” and Morrie called Mitch “Player.” Morrie still wants to have meeting with Mitch after he dies. Morrie wants Mitch to come visit his grave and talk to him. Morrie tells Mitch that he won’t be able to talk to him but he will be able to listen from up above. Morrie was a true teacher to the last.