

Light & Life - The Book Of John
“The Resurrection And Life” John 11:1-45
Cornerstone Church Of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
December 3, 2023

Because Jesus Is The Resurrection And The Life:

1. Our Circumstances Are For God’s Glory

¹ Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair. ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, **the one you love** is sick." ⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for **God's glory** so that God's Son may be glorified through it." **John 11:1-4 (NIV)**

⁵ Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he **stayed** where he was **two** more days. ⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." ⁸ "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews tried to **stone you**, and yet you are going back there?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? A man who walks by day will not stumble, for he sees by this world's light. ¹⁰ It is when he walks by night that he stumbles, for he has no light." ¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." ¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. ¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "**Lazarus is dead**, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Then **Thomas** (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for **four days**. ¹⁸ **Bethany** was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. **John 11:5-19 (NIV)**

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2. Believe In The Eternal

²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "**if you had been here**, my brother would **not have died**." ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will **rise again**." ²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the **resurrection** at the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;** ²⁶ **and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?**" ²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the **Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.**"
John 11:20-27 (NIV)

²⁸ And after she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. ³² When **Mary** reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "**Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.**" ³³ When Jesus saw her **weeping**, and the Jews who had come along with her also **weeping**, he was **deeply moved** in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. ³⁵ **Jesus wept.** ³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **John 11:28-36 (NIV)**

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³⁷ But some of them said, "**Could not he** who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸ Jesus, once more **deeply moved**, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "**Take away the stone,**" he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a **bad odor**, for he has been there **four days.**" ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see **the glory of God?**" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." **John 11:37-42 (NIV)**

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3. Anything Is Possible With Jesus

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "**Lazarus, come out!**" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his **hands and feet wrapped** with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "**Take off the grave clothes and let him go.**" ⁴⁵ Therefore **many of the Jews** who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, **put their faith in him.** **John 11:43-45 (NIV)**

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➤ Do You Trust In Jesus As The Resurrection And The Life?

My next right step, I will:

[] Accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

[] Follow Jesus as my Shepherd.

[] Follow Jesus in Believer's Baptism.

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Small Group Leader: Choose how many questions that will honor your time commitment. Encourage everyone to participate in either a question, reading or prayer. [If using this as a family, choose 2 -3 questions to go deeper in faith.]

Big Idea:

To know Who Jesus is and to place our confident trust in Him as our Lord & Savior.

Open in Prayer.

Icebreaker: Describe the sickest you have ever been.

Because Jesus Is The Resurrection And The Life:

1. Our Circumstances Are For God’s Glory

Read John 11:1-4

What kind of relationship did Jesus have with Lazarus and his sisters?

Why does Jesus deliberately delay?

Read John 11:5-19

Why is Jesus returning to Lazarus? 11-15

What do the disciples fear instead? 8,16

Have you, like Thomas, ever felt Jesus was calling you to do something very risky? 16

2. Believe In The Eternal

Read John 11:20-42

Thinking about Mary and Martha, have you ever felt like God was not listening to your prayers?

How does Jesus postponed respond help you understand your prayer life?

In your grieving, have you ever got caught up in the “what if’s?” What helped you go through it?

How long had Lazarus been dead?

How would you feel if you were Martha or Mary when Jesus arrived?

What do you learn about Martha from the way she talks to Jesus?

If Jesus knew he would raise Lazarus from the dead, why do you think Jesus wept? 33-36

If Martha had faith in Jesus, why was she skeptical to roll away the stone?

Why did Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead? 40-42

3. Anything Is Possible With Jesus

Read John 11:43-45

What part did Lazarus' friend take? 42-44

How could this passage be used to help someone who is facing death?

Close in Prayer.

Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary – John

Upon arriving at the burial cave of Lazarus, Jesus wept (literally, “shed tears”). And the observation of the people was spot-on. Jesus did indeed love Lazarus. While the Son of God is fully divine, He is completely human. Moreover, He is the perfect representation of the Father, who is Spirit, yet nonetheless emotionally connected to the creatures bearing His likeness. When we weep, our Creator weeps with us; not with the kind of hopelessness we endure through our ignorance, but with compassion. No one hates the devastating consequences of sin more than He.

Many of the religious leaders who visited Martha and Mary during their bereavement witnessed Jesus' power over death and chose to believe. However, some did not. Not even raising the dead convinced them! John concludes the story as he opened it, with a reminder of the danger Jesus faced being so close to Jerusalem ([11:8](#), [16](#), [18](#)).

Whenever I conduct the funeral of a believer in Jesus Christ, the promises of Easter fill my mind. Death is not the end for that individual. We weep because we miss seeing our loved one's face, hearing that familiar voice, feeling that reassuring touch. But we weep with a confident assurance that the souls of the dead in Christ are living joyfully in the presence of their Maker, awaiting the resurrection of their bodies ([2 Cor. 5:1-10](#)). We weep in anticipation of seeing them again.