



- ❖ Read John 11:1 – 12:11

In this story, Jesus reveals something new to His followers. He recognizes that they have seen many miracles and heard many messages and they are now ready to receive some greater revelation and deeper understand of who He is. So Jesus waits for the right moment and then He reveals Himself in a new and amazing way. He reveals Himself as the Resurrection and the Life.

- ❖ Write in your own words how you have come to know Jesus as the “resurrection and the life”. What does that mean to you?

ASK PEOPLE TO SHARE

- ❖ Why do you think Jesus waited to go to Lazarus when he was told about the sickness?

Because He knew that if he went to him right away, He would have healed Lazarus like he had healed many others and His followers would have not known Him any more than they already did. Jesus was about to reveal Himself as the resurrection and the life.

- ❖ What do you think Jesus meant in verse 14, “Lazarus is dead and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe.”?

It seems almost like Jesus is saying to them, “You know that if I had went there right away I would have seen him sick, had compassion on him, touched him and healed him and everything would be just fine now. But you have all seen me heal many times. You already know me as the healer. You already know I have compassion on my children. But now you are ready to know me even more. You are ready to know me as the resurrection from death to life.

- ❖ Why do you think Jesus wept at the graveside of Lazarus?

Even though Jesus was God and knew that He would raise Lazarus He also loved Lazarus. Even more, He loved Mary and Martha and I believe when He saw the morning of their loss He was moved to tears. Jesus knew how the story would end but it did not stop Him from having compassion. I think that is important for us to understand. Jesus feels our hurts. And even though He knows how the story ends He still has compassion on us and He weeps with us. It is kind of like a parent. When something happens that hurts the feeling of a child, like maybe a friend ignored her or he got picked last for the team... even though as a parent we know it is not really going to have a lasting or serious effect on his/her life we still feel sad when they feel sad. Jesus knows that death hurts but He also knows that physical death for those who believe in Him will not last or conquer.

- ❖ Read verse 41 and 42, Jesus’ prayer. What stands out to you about Jesus’ prayer?

Jesus says, “I thank you that you heard me.” He acknowledges boldly that He believes God hears our prayers and answers. He is not waiting for proof. He trusts and believes. He also says I say this for their benefit. He knows what God is going to do but to show the followers it is God at work He prays in front of them so they might believe too.

- ❖ Which verses in this story reveal that the Son of God has received glory as He had intended through the raising of Lazarus?

In John 11 verse 4 and 40 Jesus expresses this is all happening so that the glory of God would be revealed to the people. In verse 27 Martha proclaims truth about Jesus bringing glory to God. In verse 45 it says that many Jews who were there put their faith in Jesus and therefore God was glorified. In John 12 a dinner is put on to honor Jesus and God is glorified. Specifically in John 12 verse 3 Mary anointed Jesus with perfume in response to His as an act of worship in response to His grace on Lazarus and God was glorified. Finally, in John 12 verses 9 through 11 we see that many came to faith in response to the raising of Lazarus and with the new enlightenment that Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life.

Daily Reading Plan through the Gospel of John

- Day 1 – Memory Verse: John 11:25
- Day 2 – John 16:1-16
- Day 3 – John 16:17-33
- Day 4 – John 17:1-5
- Day 5 – John 17:6-19
- Day 6 – John 17:20-26
- Day 7 – John 18:1-14