

JESUS AT THE CENTER

JOHN 11:1–16 (CSB)

Now a man was sick—Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair, and it was her brother Lazarus who was sick. ³ So the sisters sent a message to him: “Lord, the one you love is sick.”

JOHN 11:1–16 (CSB)

⁴ When Jesus heard it, he said, “This sickness will not end in death but is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that he was sick, he stayed two more days in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after that, he said to the disciples, “Let’s go to Judea again.”

JOHN 11:1–16 (CSB)

⁸ “Rabbi,” the disciples told him, “just now the Jews tried to stone you, and you’re going there again?”

⁹ “Aren’t there twelve hours in a day?” Jesus answered. “If anyone walks during the day, he doesn’t stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

JOHN 11:1–16 (CSB)

¹⁰ But if anyone walks during the night, he does stumble, because the light is not in him.” ¹¹ He said this, and then he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I’m on my way to wake him up.”

¹² Then the disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will get well.”

JOHN 11:1–16 (CSB)

¹³ Jesus, however, was speaking about his death, but they thought he was speaking about natural sleep.

¹⁴ So Jesus then told them plainly, “Lazarus has died.

¹⁵ I’m glad for you that I wasn’t there so that you may believe. But let’s go to him.” ¹⁶ Then Thomas (called “Twin”^[a]) said to his fellow disciples, “Let’s go too so that we may die with him.”

LOVE

“The one you love is sick.” (v. 3)

The message of love reached Jesus before
the healing did or does.

Intercession is the voice of love when others
have none, Intercession is love refusing to
stay silent.

Ezekiel 22:30 (NIV)

DIAGNOSIS

We don't know what sickness Lazarus had.
But we do know why he was sick.

LOVE

- Verse 3: So, the sisters sent word to Jesus, 'Lord, the one you love (*phileō*) is sick.
- Verse 5: Now Jesus loved (*agapaō*) Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

OBSERVATION

Each name matters. Each story matters. Each circumstance matters.

Martha: The one who serves, who works hard, who sometimes worries and complain too much. **Jesus loves her.**

Mary: The one who worships, who pours out her heart at His feet. **Jesus loves her.**

Lazarus: The one who is sick, and silent. **Jesus loves him too.**

The love of Jesus doesn't Prevent us from trial and tribulation, but it sustains us through It.

DELAY

When God delays, He isn't saying "no"; He is teaching us to trust His timing. His love may not hurry, but it's never late.

JESUS PURPOSE

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MARTHA/I KNOW

Jesus turned resurrection from being just an event into a person Himself.

OBSERVATION

One mistake we often make is looking at our circumstances to understand God's love, instead of looking at God's love to understand our circumstances.

INVITATION

These miracles also reveal the beauty of God's work, with Jesus inviting us to be part of what He is doing.

“God’s miracles are not just wonders to watch, they are invitations to participate in His work.”

JESUS IS THE CENTER OF...

- **Life:** because He gives it.
- **Death:** because He conquers it.
- **Faith:** because He defines it.
- **Hope:** because He fulfills it.
- **Love:** because He symbolizes it and He is love.