

RESURRECTION LIFE

THE **GREAT GOD** STORY



GROUP
RESOURCE

Our Liturgy

The Lord is here — His Spirit is with us.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is — there is Freedom!

CONNECT

— 15 MINUTES

Share with each other any thoughts and questions you have around a future resurrection.

REVIEW

— 30 MINUTES

The Themes of the Great God story:

Presence — People — Authority

Read John 11:1-44

- Pause and consider how meaningful it would be to Jesus to have person friends in a time of such public and controversial ministry.
- v. 3 Lazarus is identified as the one Jesus loves. Do you identify yourself as “one Jesus loves”? What in your story has challenged that belief?
- v. 6 Jesus waited two days before responding to the call. How has delay in answered prayers challenged your faith?
- v. 15 Jesus says what is about to happen will help them believe. What fuels your faith?
- v. 21-22 Martha expresses both disappointment and faith—how might this inform your conversations with God?
- v. 25-26 Jesus says the resurrection is a person rather than an event. How do you make sense of these two verses?
- v. 27 what do you notice about Martha’s response to the question of belief?
- v. 33 Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and troubled—the Greek words express this as a visceral reaction, “to snort with anger, have indignation, to groan. What stirs this reaction in you on behalf of others?
- v. 35 Can you imagine Jesus weeping over you? Jesus knew the solution was coming, yet he was still overwhelmed with the pain of His friends. How does this speak to any current suffering going on in your life?
- v. 36-37 Some recognized His love even in the mystery, but some were cynical and sarcastic. Which way are you more likely to respond?
- v. 40 is the crux of the whole passage.



- If you believe—believe what?
- Are you content with the glory of God being the outcome rather than whatever agenda you might have?
- Can you imagine Jesus saying, “Come, alive!” Over the dead and disappointed places in your story?

APPLICATION

— 20 MINUTES

It can be easy to see the point of this story being that Jesus raised someone from the dead once upon a time, but He’s not fixing my problems so it has no relevance. That would definitely be to miss the point! The point is that Jesus IS the resurrection and when we invite Him into our story, He brings resurrection life to everything that is lost, stolen, and broken. Death never has the last word when Jesus is in the story.

If you find yourself stuck in unbelief or without expectation of God’s glory being revealed, consider the following:

~ Rejection and shame. Sometimes we don’t really believe we are the one Jesus loves. Break agreement with these lies using the following template: “In the name of Jesus I break every agreement I have made, known or unknown, with rejection and shame. Jesus take these things far away from me and bring me a fresh revelation of your love and friendship.” Spend time meditating on His love through scriptures and songs.

~ Bitterness and accusation against God. When God doesn’t show up the way we think He should, bitterness can settle into our soul. We can become unhappy or angry religious people. Confess your bitterness to God, repent of rebellion and accusing Him, be honest about your grief, and offer fresh surrender. “I don’t understand, but I believe you are the Son of God and I want to see your glory in my story.”

~ The Long Wait. It is hard to sustain hope when it feels like Jesus is delaying. Stay in community with others who will encourage and pray with you. Make a habit of worship. Ask God to give you eyes to see what He is doing in the waiting.

Finally, prophesy life over the dead places in your life! Use the words of Ezekiel 37:3-4

