

# **SERMON STUDY GUIDE**

"JOHN 10:22-42"

### CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed affect your week?

#### **DISCOVER**

What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?

Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

JOHN 11:1-44: John tells the story of Lazarus being raised from the dead. John gives us the facts, which, taken separately, can raise questions in our minds about how things were playing out.....but the story wasn't really about the scenes and human responses of the characters in it. The story was really about God. The GLORY of God!

Having read or heard the story told in John 11:1-44, share your thoughts or mention what verses help you grasp the following: (Choose as many as you have time for or special interest in.)

- What IS 'The Glory of God? What does it mean to you? Where and how can we look for it/experience it/recognize it?
- Why are suffering, pain and death so hard for us? What does it mean to you that we were NOT created for death? (Had you really thought about that before?) How do you see or seek Jesus in your suffering?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus is 'greater than death?'
- How does this passage show Jesus responds/reacts to death?
- Jason mentioned that, even though there were people in Judea wanting to kill Jesus, Jesus had no enemies in this story? How can that be?
- What does that tell us about the love the Good Shepherd has for ALL His sheep? Can you fathom loving those who hate you and are determined to bring harm to you?
- Why do you think Jesus delayed His journey to Bethany to see Lazarus? How does this help you trust God's timeline when you are waiting and waiting for Him?
- How is this life a MIST? How does that make you feel about your time on this earth? What picture do you
  have of ALL of time, and the function of your time and place in it? Of your own eternity with God? How
  does all of that shape your journey in this life?
- In Vs. 22 how does Martha express her faith and humility? How do you feel about knowing that healing does not happen in this life for some, but only in the next life?
  - 1. Even in their sorrow and grief, both Mary and Martha rose to meet Jesus in their own ways; if we seek Jesus in our suffering, how can we lead others to Him? In times you have suffered, have you sought Jesus?
  - 2. Mary tells Jesus how she feels about His not being there; how comfortable do you feel being honest and free with God in your prayers?
  - 3. Do you pray with the idea that Jesus wants to hear what is REAL in your life all the anxiety, the frustration, the powerlessness you might be feeling?
- When Lazarus came out of the tomb, Jesus told him to take off his grave clothes. Have you done that?
- How concerned are you about how you are representing Him every day in this life?
- What is the BIG PICTURE in this story?
- What do you see as people's greatest need?



# **SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.**

- What do you see as your greatest purpose?
- THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IS KNOWING HIM.....how is knowing Him greater than any suffering or pain you may be experiencing?
- Has your grasp on the pairing of death/suffering and bringing glory to God been altered or changed any after studying this passage?

## **RESPOND**

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

### **PRAY**

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.