



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“JOHN 11:45-57”

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 11:45-57 What do we do with Jesus? What do we do with Jesus, who is calling us to Him in His bold statement of John 11:25-26 – “I am the Resurrection and the Life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die. Do you believe this?” He is calling us TO Him, wanting us to trust Him and Him alone! Are you ready to jump into His arms of safety, redemption and rest each and every day?

What do we do with Jesus: **DIVISION** I am the Resurrection and the Life. Do you believe this? Imagine the rejoicing when Lazarus walked out of the tomb in John 11:44! Jesus called to Lazarus, and he came walking out of the tomb, alive! But.....Vs. 45 and 46 tell what happened next: **DIVISION**.

- Look back at Jesus' prayer in John 11:41b-42, before He raised Lazarus from the dead. Lazarus WAS raised from the dead BY JESUS, but now the people had to DO something with what that said about Jesus. Then, in Vs. 45 and 46 came the division...why do you think the people all saw the same miracle but reacted totally differently? How did some respond just as Jesus had prayed for, while others immediately ran to the Sanhedrin?
- What would you say are FIVE great divisions among people in our society/nation/world today? Think about all the statements Jesus has said about Himself in Chapters 1-11 of John....How do you respond to the divisions you see in our divided world? How do you keep moving forward in life?

What do we do with Jesus: **CLINGING TO OUR 'SECURITIES'** I am the Resurrection and the Life. Do you believe this? The world offers so many 'essentials' that promise to make us feel secure, valued, successful, etc. Which really ARE essential? Which ones do we cling to, invest our time and ourselves in, spend our days nurturing? Ask yourself:

- What am I clinging to in this life that holds me back from jumping wholeheartedly into Jesus' arms as He is calling me to trust Him and Him alone? What is driving that need to cling?
- What am I holding on to that wasn't intended to hold me? What are the dangers of this position?
- What questions could you ask about the perceived securities you are clinging to, to determine their validity, their truth, their reliability, their lasting assurance.....what, how, trustworthiness, etc.
- If I am settling for something that is LESS than Jesus, WHY? What part of me is unwilling to embrace WHO HE IS?

What do we do with Jesus: **GOD'S TIMING, SOVEREIGNTY** I am the Resurrection and the Life. Do you believe this? God's Will, God's Timing, God's Glory – the hard part for us is that middle section: God's Timing. How is the importance of God's Timing shown in just this chapter?

- Looking back at the story of Lazarus' death in the first part of John 11, why do you think Jesus didn't go right to Mary and Martha when He heard about Lazarus? He was so close to this family! What was the



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importance of God's timing here in comparison to the human reactions Mary and Martha might have been experiencing when Jesus didn't come right away?

- John 11:56 tells us that people kept looking for Jesus, wondering why He hadn't shown up at the Passover Festival yet?
- Review why people came to celebrate the Passover and how God's Timing played an important part in when Jesus might appear. What was the significance of blood in the Passover remembrance, and how did that point to Jesus?
- In what area of your life is waiting for God's Timing a major stumbling block right now? How can studying John 11 help you in this struggle? What is the importance of seeking to glorify God in all things?

What do I DO with Jesus: NOW. THIS WEEK. CHOICES. I am the Resurrection and the Life. DO YOU BELIEVE THIS? Every day we have the CHOICE to trust Jesus and Jesus alone throughout the day!

- What choice could you make this week that would allow you to see how great God is?
- What choice could you make this week that would allow you to find rest in Him even when you don't understand things around you or can't see what's ahead?
- What choice could you make this week to find rest in Him when division causes strife in your workplace/friends/family?
- I am the Resurrection and the Life. Do you believe this? What choice would you make to complete this statement: I CAN find REST in Jesus and Jesus alone because

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.