



MESSAGE TO CONVERSATION GUIDE

I Need A Miracle | Lazarus

1. In this message, Joel started out by asking, *have you ever found yourself in the middle of a mess before*. For an icebreaker, describe how messy your car typically is (1 being *it's a museum* & 10 being *it's borderline unethical how dirty it is*).
2. Read John 11:1-44. (You're a champ...because that was a lot!). Ok, what mess was Mary, Martha, & Lazarus in when the story starts? What kind of messes do we find ourselves in life (if you feel comfortable, you can give a personal answer).
3. In this story, Mary & Martha thought they were in the middle of a mess for the 4 days that Lazarus was dead but they didn't realize they were in the middle of a miracle. Joel repeated this line in this message several times...*some of you think you're in the middle of a mess right now but you're actually in the middle of a miracle and you don't even know it*. Discuss that quote. Has that quote ever proven true to you in your life? What happened?
4. When Mary & Martha sent word to Jesus about Lazarus, Jesus stayed where He was for 2 more days. When He finally arrived, Lazarus had been dead for 4 days. Have you ever felt like God was late before? How good of an indicator are the things *we see* to the bigger picture of what God is actually doing?
5. Read John 11:25-26. Jesus wanted to see where Martha's faith was *before* he did the miracle. What role does faith play in the miracles that we experience?
6. The last thing that happens in this story is that Lazarus comes back to life when Jesus calls him out of the grave. The last words in the story come from Jesus when he says, *unwrap him and let him go*. How do the messes in our life *wrap us up*? How does the Messiah in our life *unwrap us & let us go* in freedom?