

2024



**LAZARUS**  
**HE GAVE US NEW LIFE SERIES**

**SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE**

*John 11:39-45 NIV - [39] "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." [40] Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" [41] So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. [42] I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." [43] When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" [44] The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go." [45] Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.*

- Sometimes God blesses you for those around you
- We were created for God
- You need to be around the right people in order to experience your resurrection

*Who around you has been blessed through your obedience? How did the Lord bless them?*

God did something specific with the crowd each week.

- Week 1 focused on Jairus: Jesus put the crowd out to perform the miracle
- Week 2 focused on the widow: Jesus ignored the crowd
- This week focuses on Lazarus: Here, Jesus needs the right crowd to perform the resurrection

God specializes in bad situations. Unlike every other resurrection the crowd matters, the people around you and connected to matters.

- Everyone in your crowd is not a part of your core.
- Everybody that is in your core is not part of your committed or cause
- Everyone around you is not with you
- You must learn to discern the difference
- Make sure you are not around people who like to see me in my grave clothes

The best thing you can do is to manage your expectations. The more you have expectations the more you can have disappointments. God teaches us how to manage disappointment. Everyone in your life is not assigned to do everything. We have to expect them to do the one thing God assigned them to do. There are some people that you're expecting to help you that are only assigned to watch you. Don't put too much emphasis on the wrong person.

Reciprocity of the kingdom states you give in one place and receive in another. You aren't supposed to receive from everyone you give to. If they had it God wouldn't have needed you to give it.

- Don't stop giving, it only hurts you
- People cannot give you what they don't have
- You can be frustrated with what someone didn't do and God will bless them for what they did do
- Give people freedom to do that one thing in your life that they were called to

*1 Corinthians 3:6, 8 NIV - [6] I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.*

*[8] The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor.*

- Make it grow God
- Focus on God instead of who did what
- God is using the people around you
- We serve a principle God
- If you mimic God's behavior you'll get God's results
- Take inventory to make sure you are around the right people
- Develop purposeful connections
- One person cannot do everything you need; stop putting all of the expectation on one person

*If you don't trust your people, why are they around you?*

## THE VILLAGE FOR A RESURRECTION!!!

### THE CROWD OF PEOPLE

- You can tell the life a person lived when they die
- You can tell a person's lifestyle by those around them
- Crowds matter
- Who you hang with determines your resurrection

*John 11:19, 31 NIV - [19] and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. [31] When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.*

- Lazarus was dead, he couldn't do anything to get out of this
- If Lazarus is coming out, it depends on the people around him
- I got faith for you
- You can tell how people live by who comes around when they die
- We do not mourn as those who have no hope

*How do you mourn loss? Who is with you when they mourn?*

## THOSE IN THE CROWD ASSIGNED TO BE A PART OF YOUR RESURRECTION

### ASSIGNMENT #1

#### YOU NEED SOMEONE TO PRAY!!!!

*John 11:3 NIV - So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."*

- Your assignment is to pray
- You do what you do God does what God does
- Get God involved
- Prayer does not inform God, it invites God in
- God is familiar with the voice of those praying

*Who have you partnered with in prayer? How has this partnership helped you?*

### ASSIGNMENT #2

#### YOU NEED SOMEONE TO BELIEVE WHEN IT GETS WORSE!!!

*John 11:21-22, 40 NIV - [21] "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. [22] **But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.**" [40] Then Jesus said, "**Did I not tell you that if you believe,** you will see the glory of God?"*

- You need someone who still believes God
- Don't run from the one you can run to
- You can be mad and full of faith at the same time
- God is big enough to let you be human, when you get through He's still God
- It's easy to blame God when you lose your expectations
- It's hard to believe God when you lose your expectations

*How do you navigate through adversity when things get worse? Who believes with you or for you when times are difficult?*

## ASSIGNMENT #3

### YOU NEED SOMEONE TO LISTEN FOR DIVINE INSTRUCTION

*John 11:39 NIV - "Take away the stone," he said.*

- You need people that hear God in your situation
- Someone needs to be able to obey a crazy instruction
- Everyone comes in at their season with new strengths
- Don't dismiss when someone hears what does not make sense to you
- Know what you hear, say what you heard, see what you said

*Who sits as the voice of God in your circle? What crazy instruction have you received from God?*

## ASSIGNMENT #4

### YOU NEED SOMEONE TO MAKE A WAY

*John 11:41 NIV - So they took away the stone.*

- You have to allow everyone to be everything
- Don't expect one person to do all of the heavy loading
- They got rid of everything in the way
- We remove all blockages in your way
- Holy Spirit will determine how many waymakers you need

*Sometimes it takes a village to make things happen, how well does your village work together in removing obstacles? Who did God send to help move blockages in your difficult season?*

## ASSIGNMENT #5

### YOU NEED SOMEONE TO UNWRAP YOU

*John 11:44 NIV - The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."*

- Your little matters to God
- Thank God for all the people that helped you get unstuck
- God is going to finish what he started in you

- It's not over until God says it's over
- You're victory will not be your secret
- Some people refuse to unwrap you because you are going to surpass them

*Who do you trust to unwarp you from your mess? What has been the greatest mess someone else had to help you get out of?*

*Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 MSG - [9-10] It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work, share the wealth. And if one falls down, the other helps, But if there's no one to help, tough!*

- God did not intend for you to carry the load alone
- Don't be afraid to trust others
- Ask for the help that you need
- God is about to send you sponsorship
- Your circle is coming
- Your push is coming
- Intercessors are coming

*Why do you insist on struggling alone in silence? How can you lean on those in your committed circle?*

## **QUESTION**

*How can God use you to help others get unstuck?*

## **DECLARATION**

*I will PUSH (pray until something happens) and I will praise my way out of a dead situation. I will trust God and trust my village.*

## **PRAYER**

*Father God, I thank You for everyone that you have placed in my life. In the midst of my adversity, You have provided me someone who can hear from You when I am unable to. I have seen Your hand resurrect things that I thought were dead and brought life to various areas of my life. I thank You for my village. I promise to honor those You have sent to help me. Even when I don't understand, I will trust You. I give You all the glory and honor forever more in Jesus' name, Amen!*