

WHEN GOD DOESN'T DO WHAT WE EXPECT

John 11

FIRST THOUGHTS:

- What do you do when you know Jesus could have done something, but He didn't?
- God's silence does not mean God's absence, and God's delay does not mean God doesn't care. Sometimes Jesus is doing something bigger than we can see.

JESUS LOVES US EVEN WHEN HE DELAYS (John 11:1–6)

- Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus—but He still waited.
- Delay is not denial. Silence is not absence.
- Don't let what you don't understand about your circumstances change what you know about God.

JESUS CAN HANDLE OUR HONEST QUESTIONS (John 11:21–22, 32)

- Both Martha and Mary told Jesus, "If you had been here..."
- Jesus did not rebuke them for their questions.
- Faith is bringing our pain to Jesus, not running away from Him.

JESUS DOESN'T JUST GIVE LIFE — JESUS IS LIFE (John 11:25–27)

- Our greatest need isn't simply for Jesus to fix our circumstances.
- Our greatest need is Jesus Himself.
- Jesus asks Martha the question each of us must answer: "Do you believe this?"

JESUS IS PRESENT IN OUR PAIN (John 11:33–35)

- Jesus knew the resurrection was coming, but He still entered their grief.
- Jesus is powerful enough to change our circumstances and compassionate enough to cry with us in them.

JESUS IS STILL WORKING WHEN THE SITUATION LOOKS IMPOSSIBLE John 11:38–40

- Lazarus had been dead four days.
- Everyone else saw a hopeless situation. Jesus saw an opportunity for the glory of God.

WHEN JESUS SPEAKS, DEAD THINGS COME TO LIFE (John 11:41–44)

- Jesus speaks and death has to obey.
- The miracle of Lazarus points forward to the resurrection of Jesus.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Trust Jesus, because the same Jesus who called Lazarus out of the tomb is still working today!