



**Lesson Title:** Raising Lazarus

**Scripture Focus:** John 11:23–25

### The Lesson in Context

If it were not for sin, we would not deal with death and the lasting pain it leaves in its wake. Freeing humanity from the “sting of death” was part of Jesus’ mission to fulfill what the Law required. When Jesus stood at the tomb of Lazarus, He confronted sin and death. This miracle would confirm beyond all doubt that Jesus was the Messiah. He had more than the ability to heal and forgive; Jesus did not just restore what was broken or compromised; He could bring back to life what was dead. His death on the cross would make this a reality, not just in the physical realm but in the spiritual realm as well.

While all of us may not share in the experience of having a loved one raised from the dead, we all share in the truth of what happened that unforgettable day in Bethany. Yes, Jesus is able to heal us, which is why we pray for Him to heal when we or others we love are sick. But He is able to do so much more. One day, Jesus will call all of us who are yet alive—or even have been laid in a grave—up in the resurrection. When He heals, we give Him glory. And when He calls us home, we will have all eternity to give Him glory.

### Group Discussion

1. When you see someone go through something you wish they did not have to go through, how do you reach out to them?
2. In your life when God delayed His answer, what did you do in the waiting? What would you do differently?
3. What do the different ways Jesus related to Mary and Martha tell us about how He knows us?
4. How has difficulty in your life brought you closer to Jesus?
5. How have you experienced resurrection power since coming to Christ?

### My Prayer for the Upcoming Week

How do you want to be different because of what you have experienced today?

---

---