

# Graves into Gardens

STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION



Bible study for the week starting March 22, 2026

## SHARE

Think of a time you knew something was true, but it didn't really change how you felt or acted (example: nurses smoking on their hospital breaks!). What made the difference when that truth finally became real to you?

## READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read [John 11:20-27, 38-44](#). Martha clearly believes in Jesus, but Jesus pushes her deeper. What's the difference between "believing" and "trusting" in Jesus. Where do you see that tension in your own life?
2. Jesus knows He is about to raise Lazarus, yet He still weeps. What does this teach you about the heart of God? Why do we sometimes get numb to the brokenness of the world?
3. Jesus doesn't just feel compassion; He acts and brings life. What leads you to move toward the "tombs" in your life rather than away from them?
4. Read [Ezekiel 36:22-28](#). God promises to give people a new heart and a new spirit. Where have you seen God changing your heart, not just your behavior?
5. Read [1 Peter 1:8-19](#). Peter describes a faith that is full of joy, even in difficult circumstances. How can believing the Gospel shape your emotions and daily life, and what does this look like to live as someone who has been "raised to life?"

## PRAY

Take a few minutes to pray, thanking Jesus for calling you from death to life, asking Him to deepen your faith and compassion, and giving you courage to move toward the "tombs" in your life and the world.

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## A Heart for the World

John 11:20-27, 38-44 (Ezekiel 36:22-28; 1 Peter 1:8-19)

March 22, 2026 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

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The Gospel doesn't just **INFORM** us; the Gospel **FORMS** us.

The Gospel gives us the heart of Christ – one that is deeply moved for a **BROKEN** world and acts powerfully to bring **LIFE** to this world.

Jesus **TAKES** you as you are, but He doesn't **LEAVE** you as you are.

1. The **CONFESSION** of **FAITH** (John 11:21-27)

2. The **COMPASSION** of **CHRIST** (John 11:28-37)

Jesus knows the full brokenness of this world, but He doesn't grow **NUMB** to it.

3. The **POWER** of Jesus over **DEATH** (John 11:38-44)

Lazarus hears the only **VOICE** that has the power to raise the dead to life.

Ask yourself what **KEEPS** you **UP** at night. Ask yourself what **BREAKS** your **HEART**.

All the “**NO'S**” around Jesus didn't deter Him from lifting up His eyes to His Father and thanking Him in advance for the powerful witness He was about to give.

What kind of **FOLLOWER** of Jesus will you be, and what kind of **CHURCH** will we be collectively?

*For this Wednesday, read John 4:1-42.*