



HOPE IN THE DARK

Hope in the Dark - Part 3 - Embracing God in the Valley Ray Hammond - May 5, 2019

A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha.³ So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick."⁴ But when Jesus heard about it he said, "Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this."⁵ So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus,⁶ he stayed where he was for the next two days.
- John 11:1, 3-6

Four Things to Remember in the Valley

1) Remember to GO TO JESUS.

So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary was sitting in the house.²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will grant you." - John 11:20-22

Jesus replied, "Your brother will come back to life again."²⁴ Martha said, "I know that he will come back to life again in the resurrection at the last day."²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even if he dies,²⁶ and the one who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"²⁷ She replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who comes into the world."
- John 11:23-27

2) Remember to INCLUDE others.

And when she had said this, Martha went and called her sister Mary, saying privately, "The Teacher is here and is asking for you."²⁹ So when Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. - John 11:28-29

3) Remember that Jesus is WITH YOU.

Now when Mary came to the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the people who had come with her weeping, he was intensely moved in spirit and greatly distressed.³⁴ He asked, "Where have you laid him?" They replied, "Lord, come and see."³⁵ Jesus wept.
- John 11:32-35

Thus the people who had come to mourn said, "Look how much he loved him!"³⁷ But some of them said, "This is the man who caused the blind man to see! Couldn't he have done something to keep Lazarus from dying?" - John 11:36-37

4) Remember that your PAIN has a PURPOSE.

Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!"⁴⁴ And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in grave clothes, his face wrapped in a head cloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!"⁴⁵ Many of the people who were with Mary believed in Jesus when they saw this happen. - John 11:43-45

- **When I feel surrounded, I'll SURROUND myself with Jesus.**