

WHEN JESUS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!
Lessons from John 11:1-16

What prayers of yours are unanswered?

a. Context of Jn 11

b. v 1-3:

Lazarus, Martha & Mary. Conditions of relationship, of prayer.
The request to Jesus.

c. v4: first reason why God allows bad things to happen.

God's glory, our need & our satisfaction are related! "God is most glorified in you when you are most satisfied in him." (John Piper).
Seek the bigger picture of God's glory in what you pray for.

d. v5: God delays.

Mysteries, wrong and right understandings.

e. v7-10: the wrong timing, opposing prayers when we don't understand fully.

God's loving, sovereign and unimaginable purposes.

f. v11-15: A second reason why God allowed a bad situation to happen: growing our faith.

g. v16: sticking with Jesus when He doesn't make sense.

Don't doubt in the dark what you have found trustworthy in the light!

Isa 50:10

Examples: John the Baptist, Job, Mary & Martha, Psa 23:4, 88:18

What is your relationship like with Jesus now? Trust Him now (don't delay).

What purposes may God have in (your) trouble/darkness? How should we respond?

How can you help someone when prayers are not getting answered? Who?

How might God be glorified (and you be satisfied) in this situation? Adjust your faith and prayer.
