

Jesus is I AM!

I AM the Resurrection and the Life John 11:20-27

John 11:25 (ESV) — Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live”

The story of this “I AM” statement is the raising of Lazarus from the dead...

While the miracle of raising Lazarus is the last of Jesus’ great “SIGNS” proving Himself as Messiah, this is not the most important part of the story...

In this story we run into a most disturbing event...

Jesus hears about Lazarus’ sickness, but instead of coming to heal Lazarus or even speak his healing as He had done before, Jesus delays going for two more days...

As a result, Lazarus dies...

Why didn’t Jesus go?

Why didn’t Jesus heal Lazarus?

While most of us believe in the power of God we don’t understand why He works miracles sometimes and sometimes He doesn’t...

In this “I AM” statement we will see Jesus leading Lazarus’ sister, Martha into a place where this experience doesn’t WEAKEN her faith, but rather STRENGTHENS her faith!

ONE THING

When our faith EXPERIENCES do not line up with our faith CONVICTIONS then we must overcome our CONFUSIONS with our faith CONFESSIONS!

1. The frustrating CONFUSIONS in the Believer’s life

John 11:1–6 (ESV) — Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

NOTICE: The message from the sisters of Lazarus and Jesus’ feelings towards them...

The Sister’s message...

“Lord, he whom you love is ill.”

Jesus’ heart...

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

Go to the **BACK** of your outline and fill in the following truth...

→ **Truth to embrace** ←

Jesus loves me...

- **JUST LIKE I am**
- **RIGHT WHERE I am**
- **TOO MUCH to leave me HERE!**

So they finally leave to begin making their journey to Bethany...

The whole time Martha and her sister, Mary are wondering what is taking Jesus so long!

Where is He? Why hasn't he shown up yet?...

John 11:17 (ESV) — Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

- **Difficulties**
- **Delays**
- **Disappointments**

WHERE WERE YOU?

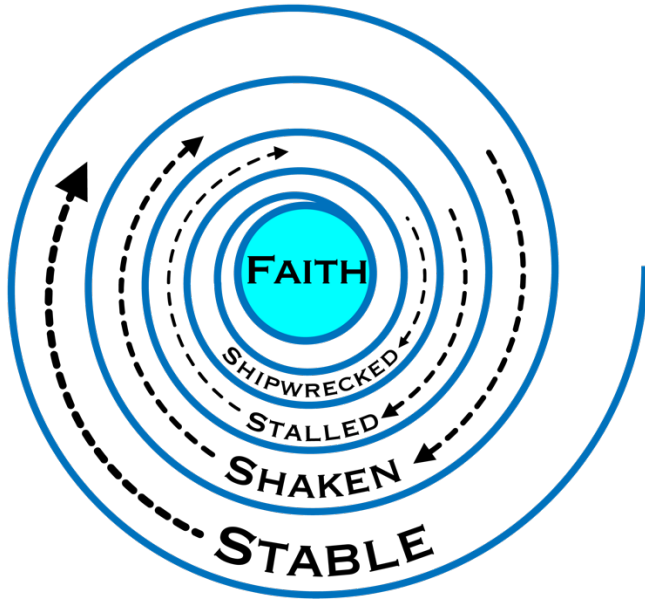
Have you ever felt that way?

- Where were you, Lord? You came too late.
- Where were you when my loved one died?
- Where were you when my marriage dissolved?
- Where were you when my parents divorced?
- Where were you when my father became an alcoholic?
- Where were you when I was cheated out of my promotion?
- Where were you when my child went astray?"

The experiences of **DELAYS** and **DISAPPOINTMENTS** can wreak havoc on our faith!

- **Mishandled spiritual CONFUSIONS will SHAKE our beliefs and can STALL our faith**

1 Timothy 1:18–19 (ESV) — This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith,



- **We must quit HIDING our FEELINGS from God!**

When our faith experiences do not line up with our faith convictions then we must overcome our confusions with our faith confessions!

1. The frustrating CONFUSIONS in the Believer's life

2. The fearful CONVERSATIONS in the Believer's life

John 11:21–24 (ESV) — 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 give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”

“Where were you?”

- ***RELIGION tells God what we THINK He WANTS to HEAR***
- ***RELATIONSHIP tells God what God KNOWS we NEED to SAY***

This is our battle between Faith and Feelings...

Some of us have feelings that ought to be shared with God. The feelings are not necessarily right, but they are feelings that need to be brought honestly before God. But we do not, for fear of losing something. God is more patient and accepting than we realize.

When our faith experiences do not line up with our faith convictions then we must overcome our confusions with our faith confessions!

1. The frustrating CONFUSIONS in the Believer's life

2. The fearful CONVERSATIONS in the Believer's life

3. The faithful CONFESSION of the Believer's life

John 11:24–27 (ESV) —*Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” 25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” 27 She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”*

Jesus Christ is fully God!

John 11:25–26 (ESV) — *Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”*

“Do you believe this?”

John 11:27 (ESV) — *She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”*

Listen to Martha’s confession!

➤ **Jesus is GOD IN CHARGE!**

➤ **Jesus is SAVIOR OF THE WORLD!**

➤ **Jesus is HERE WITH ME!**

Jesus is I AM!
I AM the Resurrection and the Life
John 11:20-27

When our faith _____ do not line up with our faith
_____ then we must overcome our _____
with our faith _____!

1. The frustrating _____ in the Believer's life

➤ Mishandled spiritual _____ will _____
our beliefs and can _____ our faith

➤ We must quit _____ our _____ from God!

2. The fearful _____ in the Believer's life

➤ _____ tells God what we _____ He
_____ to _____

➤ _____ tells God what God _____ we
_____ to _____

3. The faithful _____ of the Believer's life

➤ Jesus is _____!

➤ Jesus is _____!

➤ Jesus is _____!

Jesus loves me...

➤ _____ I am...

➤ _____ I am...

➤ _____ To leave me _____!