

# NOTES & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## SAME POSTURE, DIFFERENT PLACE

### SERMON SUMMARY

This sermon is about what it looks like to hold onto faith when life doesn't turn out the way we expected. Through the story of Mary and Martha in John 11, we see that disappointed, grieving, and even angry faith still belongs at the feet of Jesus. Because resurrection doesn't rewrite our story—it redeems it—and Jesus meets us honestly in the middle of our pain.

### KEY POINTS

- Closeness to God does not exempt us from pain.
  - Mary "chose the better thing". She chose closeness to Jesus and Lazarus still died.
- Honest faith can sound like disappointment.
- Disappointed faith still belongs at Jesus' feet.
  - Real faith is not polished and in control. It is continuing to bring your anger, your pain, your questions, and your disappointment to Him instead of running from Him.
- Jesus meets people in their grief before He changes their situation.
- Resurrection doesn't rewrite history - it redeems it.
  - Lazarus died. Mary and Martha grieved. But Jesus brought life into what looked hopeless.
- 3 steps to allowing your disappointment to bring you closer to Jesus:
  - Be Honest With God
  - Bring It to Jesus
  - Let Someone Speak Truth Into Your Life

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Mary and Martha both said, "Lord, if You had been here..." Have you ever experienced disappointment with God because life didn't turn out the way you expected? What did that season reveal about your faith?**
2. **In Luke 10, Mary sat at Jesus' feet in peace, and in John 11 she returned to His feet in grief. What does it look like for you to stay close to Jesus in both good seasons and painful ones?**

3. **The message talked about being “brutally honest” with God. Why do you think many people feel pressure to hide disappointment, anger, or doubt from Him?**
4. **Jesus wept even though He knew resurrection was coming. What does that teach us about the heart of Jesus and how He responds to our pain?**
5. **The message ended with three steps: be honest with God, stay with God, and let someone speak truth into your life. Which of those feels hardest for you right now, and what would it look like to take one practical step this week?**