



"I AM the Resurrection and the Life"

John 11:1-44

INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Can Jesus really go beyond "the point of no return"? (1 Corinthians 15:26)

❶ THE SETTING (vv.1-16)

- ▶ PLACE: _____ & _____
- ▶ TIME-TABLE?
 - Day 1: Lazarus is deathly ill; messengers sent to Perea; Lazarus dies after their departure from Bethany; messengers deliver "news" to Jesus & request His help
 - Day 2: Messengers return to Bethany with "good news" (v.4); Jesus waits
 - Day 3: Jesus waits another day; continues to minister in Perea
 - Day 4: After a long journey, Jesus arrives at Bethany in the afternoon

▶ WHO'S INVOLVED?

- A. _____, _____ & _____ (cf. vv.3,5)
 - ❖ Shocking Element #1: Jesus took _____
_____. He _____!
 - ❖ Shocking Element #2: The " _____ " the messengers brought back from Jesus on Day #2 (v.4 – "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory...")

PRINCIPLE #1: Jesus cannot be _____ or _____ to come over to our _____.

PRINCIPLE #2: Jesus _____ and wants you to _____... even when everything around you seems to _____ what He is saying to you.

- B. The _____
- C. _____ & _____

❷ THE SISTERS (vv.17-37)

- ▶ Meeting with Martha (vv.17-27); Meeting with Mary (vv.28-37)
- ▶ Conversation Topic: Resurrection – "Your brother will rise again." (v.23)
- ▶ QUESTION: Who are you trusting to help you past "the point of no return"?
- ▶ Jesus – The Resurrection & the Life (cf. John 5:24-29)
- ▶ QUESTION: Why did Jesus weep? (v.35)
 - A. _____ (v.5)
 - B. Effects of _____ & _____
 - C. Gross _____ of those present

❸ THE SIGN (vv.38-44)

- ▶ Verse 39 – "Take away the stone."
- ▶ Purpose of this Sign: "So that you may believe." (v.5)
- ▶ John 11:25-26 - "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do YOU believe this?"

Creekside Events



Prayer

Ask Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, to fill you with joy, hope and LIFE as you meet together.

My Story

As Christians, how can we reconcile funerals being a "Celebration of Life" when the reality of death is so difficult? How do you personally deal with this?

Digging Deep

1. What from Sunday's message stood out to you as especially insightful or encouraging?
2. **Read John 11:1-7.** Jesus knows the end of this story in John 11, as well as the story of His own death by crucifixion. According to this passage, why does Jesus allow all of these events to happen?
3. Based on John 11:3-5, describe Jesus' relationship with Lazarus, Martha, and Mary. Why do people want and need these kinds of relationships in their life? Do you currently have any? If so, give thanks!
4. Read **John 11:8-16.** What is the meaning of Jesus' words in verses 9-10? How do they relate to us doing God's will even in the face of danger?

5. Read **John 11:17-21; 32-33.** How did Martha and Mary deal with Jesus getting there after their brother had died? How have you dealt with God not "coming through" for you in a time of need? How can **Isaiah 55:8-9** help you better deal with your disappointment?

Digging Deeper

6. **Skim John 11:17-27.** What is the significance of Mary's declaration even in the midst of her brother just passing away? Do you feel she struggled with her spiritual belief and her emotions? Discuss what likely gave her confidence in the person Jesus declared Himself to be.
7. **Read John 11:28-37.** Mary was heavily grieving with her loved ones when Jesus arrived, but still fell to Jesus' feet when she saw Him. How does this give us an example of how to balance grief and worship?
8. If Jesus knew He was going to bring Lazarus back from the dead, why did He weep? What does this show us about the character of God?

Taking It Home

9. **Read John 11:38-44.** The miracle of Lazarus' resurrection was accomplished *so that we may believe* Jesus is the Son of God. How does this passage help you believe? What are you going to do to make Jesus known in your sphere of influence?

Praying Together

Pray for the needs of your group and that God will give you divine appointments this week to point someone in Jesus' direction.