

Jesus said, 'I Am the Resurrection and the life' July 30, 2017

"Jesus said to Martha, '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.'" John 11:25-27

- 1. A time of waiting always follows a time of heartache. John 11:1-5, 17
- 2. The startling promise of God comes before we receive the dramatic proof. John 11:20-32
- 3. Our tears come on both sides of the unexpected miracle. John 11:33-44, 12:9-11

Group/Family/Personal Study Questions

"And now I (Paul) stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers, ⁷ to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship night and day. And for this hope I am accused by Jews, O king! ⁸ Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead?" Acts 26:6-8

- 1. Define the word "death"? Why does everything and everyone decay and die?
- 2. According to the Bible (Genesis 3) how did death get introduced to this world?
- 3. What do you believe happens when a person dies?
- 4. How would you describe the word "eternity"? If you believe people live for eternity what will they do, what will you do?
- 5. When Jesus came into this world why didn't He simply eliminate death? What role does death still play in God's plan for us?
- 6. Does it make any sense that the One who said "I am the Resurrection" died on a cross a short time later? How does His death validate or invalidate His claim?
- 7. Is God good, and can He keep His promises? Do you trust Him? Explain

Reflection/Action:

Read the story of Lazarus (John 11), and also two other resurrection stories (Mark 5:35-43 and Luke 7:11-17). Spend a few minutes in silence picturing these miracles. Imagine you had been there when Jesus brought Lazarus back from the dead. How do you think that experience would have affected you?