

Applying It In My Life Group time - 20 minutes

1. In this story, Jesus surprised Mary, Martha, the disciples, and the religious leaders. In what ways has Jesus surprised you and changed your expectations of who He is, what He can do, and what it means to follow Him?
2. How can we approach Jesus like Martha did, with all of her frustration and grief? How does Jesus bear the pain of your grief with you? Describe when and how you have experienced Jesus' love and care in the midst of great sadness and grief?
3. Pastor Ty mentioned three responses that Jesus had to Lazarus' death – Jesus responded with: profound truth, strong emotion, and powerful action. From these responses, what do we learn about how Jesus works in our lives?

Prayer Time Group time - 15 minutes

Praise Jesus for being the resurrection and the life. Thank God for guaranteeing that death will never overcome those who believe in Him. Ask God to help you trust Him wholly in this life and to wait patiently for Him to return and call you into His resurrection life.

Finish your prayer time by praying for the needs of those in your *Growth Group*. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests. Ask someone in the group to record your prayers so that in future weeks you can see how God is answering your prayers.

#JESUS IS The Life

Lazarus' Death

John 11:1-20

- The resurrection of Lazarus was a picture of OUR resurrection.
- This illness put the GLORY of God on display.
- Love means helping people SEE and TREASURE the glory of God as their supreme joy.

Jesus Responds to Lazarus' Death

John 11:21-44

- Jesus responded with profound TRUTH about Himself.

- Jesus responded with strong EMOTION from Himself.

- Jesus responded with powerful ACTION by Himself.

- Jesus is the life and the RESURRECTION.

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of October 5-9, 2015

Getting StartedGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Each session we ask groups to plan a **social** together. It could be a meal out together, a fun night at the theatre, or a bowling night (Don't laugh, one group loved this activity). It could be something as easy as a potluck dinner prior to group. Talk about it as a group. Agree on an activity, choose a date and then – HAVE SOME FUN TOGETHER!
2. Describe when you have lost a loved one. At that time what were your feelings? What were your feelings about God and His plan? What did you learn about God and His love for you in the midst of your grief, sadness and loss?

Getting Into God's Word Group time - 40 minutes

Read John 11:1-44 (In preparation to answer questions)

1. In this account, why did John emphasize Jesus' love for Lazarus and his sisters? What is the significance of that love? Despite His love for Lazarus, why didn't Jesus go immediately to him when he learned of Lazarus' sickness?
2. Jesus' disciples warned Him against going to Bethany, which is just two miles from Jerusalem. Why might this journey have been dangerous for Jesus? What was the point that Jesus made when He responded to His disciples? What does His response tell us about Jesus' character and priorities?
3. Describe Martha's reaction to Jesus' failure to come immediately when He learned of her brother's sickness and subsequent death. How did Martha confront Jesus? What was behind Martha's confrontation of Jesus?
4. Jesus demonstrated great emotion when He saw Mary and the Judeans in tears. Why do you think Jesus was so deeply moved that He wept? What does this tell us about the humanity of Jesus? How does this incident challenge the way you understand Jesus?
5. The death of Lazarus and the death of Jesus are connected in this passage. What are the similarities in the story of Jesus' raising of Lazarus and that of Jesus' own resurrection? What, if any, differences do you see between the two stories?