

John Study – The Greatest Hits Series

Invitation to Resurrection

John 11:1-44

March 8/9

Icebreaker Question: Share about a time when you had to wait for something you really wanted or needed. How did the waiting impact your emotions and faith?

Discussion Questions:

Read John 11:1-44

1. Who are the key people in this passage, and how does each one respond to Lazarus's illness, death, and resurrection? (Jesus, Mary, Martha, the disciples, the crowd, etc.)
2. In verses 5-6, we see that Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, yet He *delayed* going to them. Why do you think Jesus waited? What does this reveal about God's timing versus our expectations?
3. Both Mary and Martha express their disappointment, saying, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died" (vv. 21, 32). Have you ever felt like God was "too late" in your life? How do you wrestle with waiting on Him?
4. In verse 25, Jesus makes a powerful statement: "I am the resurrection and the life." What does this mean? How does this truth impact the way we face loss, suffering, or uncertainty?
5. Verse 35 simply says, "Jesus wept." What does this tell us about Jesus' heart for us in our grief and struggles?
6. Jesus commands them to roll away the stone (v. 39), even though Lazarus had been dead for four days. Why do you think He asked them to do that instead of moving it Himself? How does our participation impact our own healing and spiritual growth?
7. Lazarus comes out of the tomb still wrapped in grave clothes, and Jesus tells the people to "unbind him, and let him go" (v. 44). What could this symbolize for us spiritually? How does Jesus bring freedom from the things that keep us bound?

Application:

- Where in your life is Jesus inviting you to trust Him, even when His timing doesn't make sense?
- How can you support and encourage someone else who is in a season of waiting, grief, or uncertainty?

Closing Prayer: Spend time thanking Jesus for being the resurrection and the life. Ask Him for faith to trust His timing, even when it's hard. Pray for anyone in the group who is struggling to believe that Jesus can bring new life to their circumstances.

