

The Life Challenge

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Glorify His Name

Title: I AM the Resurrection and the Life

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WARM - UP

In John 11:1-44, we see both grief and hope in the face of death. What emotions did you experience as you read this passage? How does this story speak to our own experiences of grief and loss?

DISCUSSION

1. In the story of Lazarus, we see both faith and doubt. Martha and Mary express their belief that Jesus can heal their brother, but also question why he did not come sooner. How do you navigate the tension between faith and doubt in your own life?

2. When Jesus arrives in Bethan, he weeps with Mary and Martha and those who had gathered. What does this say about the nature of Jesus' ministry and his relationship with those who are suffering?

DISCUSSION

3. In John 11:25-26, Jesus tells Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die." How does this statement speak to the Christian hope of eternal life?

4. When Jesus calls Lazarus out of the tomb, he says, "Lazarus, come out!" (11:43) What does this moment say about the power of God to bring new life out of death?

5. The story of Lazarus is unique in the Gospel of John, as it is the only account of a resurrection performed by Jesus prior to his own resurrection. What do you think the significance of this story is within the larger narrative of John's Gospel?

APPLICATION

As you respond to this Life Challenge today, take comfort in the story of Lazarus. Hold onto the hope and promise of the resurrection. No matter what you are facing, remember that Jesus is with you, that he speaks truth to you, that he weeps with you, and that he has the power to bring new life and hope into your life. Have faith in the resurrected one, Jesus Christ, and trust that he is always at work, even when you are standing at the gravesides of life.