

"Lazarus, Come Out!"

John 11:17-44

Key Verse: 43

1. Read verses 17-19. What was the situation Jesus found when he arrived in Bethany? What kind of comfort were the Jews from Jerusalem giving Martha and Mary?
2. How did Martha and Mary respond to Jesus' arrival? How did Martha (and later, Mary) greet Jesus? (20-22,32) How did their greeting show both confidence in Jesus and also disappointment?
3. How did Jesus respond to Martha? (23) What did he intend to do? What did Jesus reveal about himself? (25,26) What did Martha believe? What inconsistency can you find between her theology and her practical faith? (23,24,28,39)
4. Read verses 29-37. Think about Jesus' meeting with Mary. How did she reveal her deep love for Jesus, and at the same time, her disappointment? How had her despair been reinforced by the Jews who came to comfort?
5. Look at verses 33-35,38. How are Jesus' emotions described? How are the thoughts of Mary similar to those of the Jewish comforters? (36-37) How is Jesus' weeping different from that of Mary and the Jews?
6. Read verses 38-44. How did Martha and Jesus differ when they arrived at the tomb of Lazarus? What did Jesus teach them? Why had Jesus deliberately come late and what did he want to teach his disciples and his friends through the raising of Lazarus? (4-6, 25-26,15,40) How can we see the glory of God? Why must we?
7. Describe the raising of Lazarus. What does this last miraculous sign reveal to us about Jesus?