

HOMework

MARCH 7, 2021

COME AND SEE | DEAD MAN WALKING

JOHN 11:1-44

Note to Leaders: Every group is different, please choose the questions that relate best to your particular group from each section below.

WORK AHEAD | HOW CAN I COME PREPARED FOR MY GROUP?

1. Read John 11:1-44 in one sitting.
2. In this section, John tells the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. Pay close attention to the emotions felt by each of the characters in the story, especially Jesus.
3. Look over your message notes. What was surprising or insightful? What questions were raised?
4. If time allows, look ahead at the "Digging In" section and think through how you would contribute to your group discussion.

FOR STARTERS | THOUGHTS TO GET US ON THE SAME PAGE

1. If you could pick the playlist for your own funeral, which songs would you include?
2. What are some ways that people who do not know the Lord comfort each other when death happens? How are these helpful and how do they fall short?

DIGGING IN | DISCOVERING WHAT GOD SAYS IN SCRIPTURE

1. Death, disappointment, and Jesus.
 - a. Read Genesis 2:16-17, Romans 5:12 and Hebrews 2:14.
 - b. Look at the disappointment in verses 21, 32 and 37. When you face deep disappointment, what would it look like for you to express your "if only" prayers to Jesus?
 - c. Verses 33, 35, 38 and 43 give us clues about the way Jesus feels about death. Now read 1 Corinthians 15:21-26. How does Jesus' hatred of death make you feel about the death you see in this fallen world?

2. Resurrection and the glory of God.

a. Read Daniel 12:2, Psalm 16:10 and Romans 8:2.

b. In verses 4 and 40 of this passage, Jesus makes a connection between raising Lazarus from the dead and his "glory." What does this miracle teach us about Jesus? What is Jesus saying about himself in John 11:25?

c. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and Revelation 21:4. What does it look like for us to grieve and mourn while continuing to put our hope in Jesus? How can followers of Jesus bring comfort to those who do not yet have this hope?

BRINGING IT HOME | APPLYING WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

Personal Reflection

1. Do you live in fear of death? How does this passage strengthen you?

2. Lazarus needed help removing his "grave clothes." Is there any area of your life where you're dressed for sin and death (anger, slander, greed, sensuality, etc.) instead of resurrection and life (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, etc.)?

Group Application

1. Do you know of a believer who is experiencing the pain of disappointment or death? How can your group pray for and comfort them in this season?

2. Take a moment to pray for the families of the thousands who have died because of the pandemic. Pray that they would come to know Jesus as their resurrection and life.

DIGGING DEEPER | IDEAS TO KEEP GROWING DURING THE WEEK

1. Scripture memory is a way to embed God's word in our minds and hearts. This week, challenge yourself to memorize John 11:25.

2. There are several stories in Scripture that display God's power over death. This week read through these incredible accounts: "The widow of Zarephath's son" (1 Kings 17:17-24), the "Shunammite woman's son" (2 Kings 4:18-37), "a man in Elisha's grave" (2 Kings 13:20-21), "the widow of Nain's son" (Luke 7:11-17), "Jarius' daughter" (Luke 8:52-56), "various saints" (Matthew 27:50-53), "Tabitha" (Acts 9:36-43), "Eutychus" (Acts 20:7-12) and, of course, Jesus (Mark 16:1-18).