

- When Jesus leads us into a greater faith in Him, He's leading us into the \_\_\_\_\_ He has for us.

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

1 A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. 2 This is the Mary who later poured the expensive perfume on the Lord's feet and wiped them with her hair. Her brother, Lazarus, was sick. 3 So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick." John 11:1-3

5 So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, 6 he stayed where he was for the next two days.

John 11:5-6

#### When Jesus doesn't show up like we hoped:

- God's silence doesn't mean He's \_\_\_\_\_.
- We want relief; Jesus is after \_\_\_\_\_.
- Delay is often the place where faith \_\_\_\_\_.
- When God's timing is different than our expectations, His love is also greater than our \_\_\_\_\_.
- This is an \_\_\_\_\_ act of Jesus to show who He really is.

This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it. John 11:4

#### What this revelation shows us:

- Jesus has a \_\_\_\_\_, even when He seems delayed.  
"Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that Lazarus was sick, He stayed where He was two more days." John 11:5-6  
"This sickness will not end in death, but is for the glory of God." John 11:4  
"Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." 23 Jesus told her, Your brother will rise again. Yes," Martha said, I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day. John 11:23-24  
25 Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.  
26 Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?" 27 "Yes, Lord," she told him. "I have always believed you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world from God." John 11:25-27
- Resurrection is not an \_\_\_\_\_; it's a \_\_\_\_\_.  
"The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die..." John 11:25-26
- Jesus steps into our \_\_\_\_\_, not over it.  
35 Jesus wept. John 11:35

32 When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died." John 11:32

- Jesus uses \_\_\_\_\_ to allow us to experience new life.

39 "Roll the stone aside," Jesus told them. John 11:39

The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!" John 11:44

#### Action Steps

- Bring Jesus your honest \_\_\_\_\_, not a polished faith.  
"Pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge." Psalm 62:8
- Get into \_\_\_\_\_ we need others.  
"Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." James 5:16
- Anchor your faith in who Jesus \_\_\_\_\_, not just what you want Him to \_\_\_\_\_.  
"For we walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7



## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

#### Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

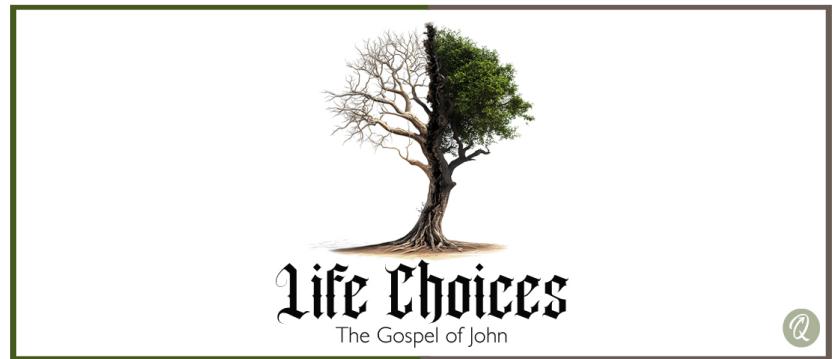
- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- Jesus says He came to give abundant life (John 10:10). What do you think "abundant life" actually looks like in real, everyday circumstances—not just after things get better?
- Mary and Martha send word to Jesus because they believe He can help (John 11:1-3). What does their message reveal about their faith—and how does it challenge the way we bring our needs to Jesus?
- Jesus loved them, yet He stayed two more days (John 11:5-6). How do you typically respond when God doesn't show up the way or when you hoped? What assumptions do we often make about God in those moments?
- The Talk mentioned, "God's silence doesn't mean He's absent." Can you think of a season where God felt silent, but later you realized He was still at work? What changed your perspective?
- Why do you think Jesus sometimes prioritizes revealing who He is over fixing the problem immediately? What might that reveal about our faith?
- What disappointment or unanswered prayer do you resonate with in that statement—and how does Jesus respond to their honesty?
- How does seeing resurrection as a person—not just an event—change the way we face loss, fear, or uncertainty right now?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus enters into grief instead of avoiding it? How does this shape the way we respond to others' pain?
- The action steps encourage honest prayer, community, and faith anchored in who Jesus is. Which of these feels hardest for you right now—and what would a small, faithful next step look like this week?

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Sunday, January 25th, 2026