

## Discussion Questions

Read John 11:1-44

Talk about the people surrounding the report of the death and resurrection of Lazarus.

Which response do you most identify with right now?

- Thomas & the Disciples - Doubt (Is God really able to ...?)
- Mary - Despair (If only God would ...)
- Martha - Disappointment (If only God had ...)
- The Jews/Mourners - Disbelief (Jesus can't be the Son of God)

Consider Jesus' emotions in this report:

- His knowingly allowing Lazarus to die and his knowingly putting his relationship with Mary & Martha at risk.
- Jesus silence at Thomas' remark (verse 16).
- Jesus conversation with Martha.
- Jesus grief with Mary.
- Jesus anger at the unbelief of the Jews.
- Jesus prayer of gratitude and request (verse 41).

What can we learn from these very personal glimpses of Jesus interacting with people?

Read John 11:25

Talk about what you understand Jesus' statement to mean.

What difference does it make to your life to live believing that Jesus is the resurrection and the life?

What are some things in your life that might need to die in order for Jesus to bring new life to you?

Read John 11:43

Jesus is the One who is the resurrection and the life. Resurrection and Life is a person, not an event.

Does this statement impact you in any way? Does it change the way you think about resurrection and life?

Are there any ways in which you try to resurrect your own life or the lives of others? Talk about times when you have been tempted to be a saviour rather than pointing people to the Saviour?

Some people have speculated that Jesus had to specify Lazarus when he called him out of the tomb because if he had simply said “come out”, then all of the dead bodies in the area would have come to life! Why then do you think John might refer to Lazarus as “the dead man” in verse 44?

Read John 11:44

Jesus is the one who brings Resurrection and Life. Jesus invites the community to join in his work by calling them to unwrap Lazarus and to set him free.

Talk about times when people have blessed you by unwrapping you from things that were binding you up so that you could walk freely.

Talk about what it could look like to exercise this kind of ministry: the ministry of unbinding and loosing.