

# THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The Book of John

Lesson 11

Lazarus Raised

John 11:1-44

## REFLECTION

Review John 10. How have you heard the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd? What new thoughts have you learned from Him that you want to implement in your life as you shepherd those whom God has put into your life?

## FOCUS VERSE

*Jesus said to her, 'I AM the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live' (John 11:25).*

## SECTION 1 – Jesus Waits to go to Bethany<sup>1</sup>

Read John 11:1-16.

1. Who was sick (vs. 1-3)? \_\_\_\_\_

What were his sisters' names? \_\_\_\_\_

How had Mary served and worshiped Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What was the message the sisters sent to Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_

## LOOK DEEPER

Read Mark 14:1-9. What did Mary of Bethany do? Some objected. What did they say? How did the LORD bless her?

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<sup>1</sup> Bethany: 2 miles east of Jerusalem. Jesus had spent a great deal of time there with His family early in His ministry (Luke 10:38-42).

<sup>2</sup> love: Greek word *phileo*; to love as a friend, to be fond of; have affection for.

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PERSONAL

What do you think the sisters expected of Jesus? When in need, what do you expect from Jesus?

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2. How did Jesus respond to the news from the sisters (John 11:4-7)? \_\_\_\_\_

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Who did Jesus love<sup>3</sup>? \_\_\_\_\_

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Jesus was beyond the Jordan<sup>4</sup>. How long did He stay there? Where did He go next? \_\_\_\_\_

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PERSONAL

Based on what you know about Mary and Martha, how do you think they felt when Jesus did not arrive immediately?

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3. Re-read and meditate on John 11:4-7. List Jesus' words, feelings and His decision regarding the sisters' request.

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<sup>3</sup> love: Greek word agape: self-sacrificing love.

<sup>4</sup> Jordan: river where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist; means 'flowing downward'; the only large flowing body of water in Palestine, runs south of the Sea of Galilee.

<sup>5</sup> Judea: territory extending south of the Dead Sea and Jerusalem; area allotted to the tribe of Judah.

Why do you think Jesus waited to go to Bethany? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL

How has suffering in your life given God glory? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What did the disciples remind Jesus of (John 11:7, 8)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Explain why they were justified in their response (John 10:31-39)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What deep spiritual truth did Jesus teach His disciples about those who *walk<sup>6</sup> in the day* as opposed to those who *walk in the night* (John 11:9, 10)?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What had Jesus previously declared about Himself (John 8:12)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## LOOK DEEPER

Read I John 1:5-7. What is John's message to the world? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>6</sup> walk: living ones life; manner of living.

PERSONAL

Are you walking in His Light or stumbling in the night? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Contrast what the disciples believed about Lazarus with what Jesus declared about him (John 11:11-15)?

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8. What did Thomas encourage the disciples to do (vs. 16)? \_\_\_\_\_

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LOOK DEEPER

Re-read John 11:16. What was wrong with Thomas' statement? \_\_\_\_\_

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SECTION 2 – Jesus Goes to Bethany

Read John 11:17-27.

1. What and whom did Jesus find when He arrived in Bethany (vs. 17-19)? \_\_\_\_\_

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LOOK DEEPER

Re-read John 11:1-19, considering all the facts given, when do you think Lazarus died? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Which sister was looking for Jesus? How do you know (vs. 20)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What was Mary doing? \_\_\_\_\_

3. List the progression of Martha's faith<sup>7</sup> in Jesus (vs. 21-27).

Martha \_\_\_\_\_

Martha \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

Martha \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Martha's confession of faith \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL

Do you truly believe Jesus' words, *I AM the Resurrection and the Life, he who believes in Me, though he may die he shall live* (verse 25)? How does this verse comfort, strengthen, or encourage you?

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 3 – Jesus Mourns in Bethany

Read John 11:28-37.

1. After Martha's personal and intimate conversation with Jesus, what did she do (vs. 28-32)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>7</sup> faith: believing in Jesus based on His Word. *Faith is the substance* [essence, reality] *of things hoped for and the evidence* [proof, conviction] *of things not seen* (Hebrews 11:1).

Write verse 29.

Mary: As \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_.

Who followed after her? What did she say to Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What did Mary do at the first sight of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How do you see Jesus' humanity in this situation (vs. 33-35)? \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup>  
\_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup>

### PERSONAL

Has there been a time of devastation when Jesus has lovingly drawn near to you? How has His Word spoken to you?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What attitude did some of those surrounding the sisters say (vs. 37)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### LOOK DEEPER

Re-read John 11:33-37, Matthew 23:37, and Romans 6:23. Why did Jesus weep and groan in the spirit?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>8</sup> weeping: wail aloud, hopeless grief; normal response of a Jew in mourning.

<sup>9</sup> Jesus wept: shed tears; to weep silently.

## SECTION 4 – Jesus Raised the Dead in Bethany

Read John 11:38-44.

1. Jesus *groaned*<sup>10</sup> as He went to the tomb where Lazarus lie dead. Describe the tomb (vs. 38, 39). \_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What did Jesus command? \_\_\_\_\_

Martha's objection was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What did Jesus promise Martha if she would only believe (vs. 40)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What did Jesus pray to His Father (vs. 41, 42)? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### PERSONAL

Is there *a heavy stone* that needs to be rolled away in your life in order for you to see the Glory of God? Are you afraid of the stench?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Ask God what you should do about it.

4. What did Jesus cry out in a loud voice (vs. 43, 44)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### LOOK DEEPER

How do you compare this physical resurrection with the miracle of a new spiritual resurrected life?

John 8:36 \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 2:1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>10</sup> groaned: deeply disturbed; troubled.

I John 5:12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL

How have you experienced Christ's resurrection power in your life? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Did I not say to you  
that if you would believe  
you would see the glory of God?*  
John 11:40

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