

DISCUSSION GUIDE

I AM the Resurrection and the Life | John 11:25

December 16 & 19, 2021



Introduction:

1. We all experience pain and difficulty times in our life. What is something painful or difficult you have experienced? Did you question God's love for you during that time? Why or why not?
2. Do good things ever come as a result of living through difficult or painful situations? Read Romans 8:28. Is there sometimes a higher purpose or bigger picture to the pain and suffering we experience?
3. How has God used your difficult situations to bring about good in your life or in the lives of others?
4. Have you ever thanked God for a difficult or painful time in your life because of the good that came as a result of the pain?

Discussion:

5. What can you gather from the friendship Jesus had with Lazarus, Mary and Martha? Read John 11:3 & 5.
6. How do you think Mary and Martha felt when Jesus waited two days to see Lazarus?
7. When Jesus arrives in Bethany, how long had Lazarus been dead? Why is this significant?
8. What does Jesus tell Martha about himself in verses 25-26? Why is this a significant statement about who Jesus is?

9. How does belief in Jesus change your perspective on life and death? What kind of hope do you have because of your belief in Jesus as the Son of God?
10. When you go through pain and suffering in your life, do you gain strength and comfort knowing that Jesus sympathizes with you?
11. Did Jesus know from the beginning of this situation that he would raise Lazarus from the dead? How many times did Jesus allude to the fact that he would raise Lazarus before the miracle took place? Read John 11:4, 11, 23, 40.
12. Why did raising Lazarus create such a stir among the people, especially among the Jewish religious leaders?
13. If you were to see a man who had been dead for four days walk out of a tomb, how would you react? What would it take for you to believe it?
14. In what ways will this story change the way you respond to a personal difficulty or a time when you feel God is not responding?

TAKEAWAY: Leave the grave behind and walk alive with Jesus.