

MAR 26, 2023



THE
FOUNDRYCHURCH

AND THEN JESUS ASKED...

Groups Discussion Questions

ICE BREAKER

DO YOU LIKE EASTER CANDY?
RATE THESE IN ORDER OF BEST
TO WORST:

JELLY BEANS, PEEPS, CADBURY
EGGS, ROBIN EGGS



READ JOHN 11:1-5

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. 3 So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." 4 But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

- According to Jesus' words in verse 4, why was Lazarus ill?
- The first soundbite in the message was The Son of God can be glorified through illness. Do you agree?
- Do you have an example from your life or someone you know that you can share with the group?

READ JOHN 11:5-16

*Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. 7 Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again.".....**continue reading JOHN 11:5-16***

- Re-read verse 5 & 6. What questions arise in your mind when you read this?
- Jesus loved them...so he waited. How does that impact your thinking the next time it feels like your prayers are not answered right away?

READ JOHN 11:17-27

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, 19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother....**continue reading JOHN 11:17-27**

- We read these verses now after Jesus has risen from the dead. How do you imagine they would have sounded to Martha?
- What does Jesus mean, *though he die, yet shall he live*?
- Read verse 25 and 26 carefully. Do you believe this?
- How does this affect everyday life for you?

READ JOHN 11:28-38

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." 29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him... **continue reading JOHN 11:28-38**

- Why did Jesus weep, if He knew He was going to raise Lazarus?
- What does it mean to you to think that Jesus is moved by your sorrow?
- In the message, Pastor Eric said that *Even though we believe, loss still hurts*. We shouldn't be misguided into thinking that if we have faith in Jesus, we can't grieve when someone dies. How does this impact your life?

READ JOHN 11:39-44

Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." 40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"... **continue reading JOHN 11:39-44**

- In verse 39, Martha voices a real, practical concern for Jesus. She probably didn't want the embarrassment for Jesus or those around. She didn't understand fully what Jesus was going to do. When in your life, have you been like Martha - telling Jesus why what He said to do isn't a good idea?
- Martha believed, up to a point. She believed Jesus was the Messiah, but she didn't believe or understand what He was going to do right now. Do you ever believe in Jesus and what he accomplished on the cross for you but do not believe in His power in the regular days?
- What did Jesus say to the people when Lazarus came out?
- Jesus loved Lazarus! Why didn't He unbind him?
- How is Jesus' invitation to the people to "unbind" the former dead man and "let him go" an illustration on how we are to treat people who were once dead in their sins but are not alive in Christ?

PRAYER REQUESTS:

DIGGING DEEPER

READ 1 COR. 15:50-57

*I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.....***continue reading 1 COR. 15:50-57**

- What does the author mean by sleep in verse 51?
- What do you think the charge is?
- Read Isaiah 25:8 and Hosea 13:14, how do these verses help you understand the victory Jesus won?
- *Note to leaders, the Hosea passage ends with a phrase that might seem strange to us. It says, *I will have no compassion*. This means that God will not have pity on those he is rescuing Israel from, and He will not regret or change what He is doing.*

1 THESS. 4:13-18

*But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.....***continue reading 1 THESS. 4:13-18**

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- Verse 18 says to encourage one another with these words. How can you do that?