

GROWTH GROUPS QUESTIONS

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

When Lazarus was gravely ill, his sisters requested Jesus come to be with him. Besides your family, what friend would you want by your side if you were suddenly very sick? Why this person?

INTO THE WORD

According to John 11:14–15, why is Jesus glad that he was not there when Lazarus died? Based on these verses and 11:4, what is the point of John 11 and the miracle Jesus is about to perform?

How does this fit with the purpose of John writing his gospel? (20:31)

What do the details of Lazarus being dead four days (vs. 17) and in a tomb with an odor (vs. 38-39) tell us about Lazarus' condition? Is this an obstacle for Jesus? How does this encourage you today?

What hope is found in John 11:25-26? According to the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:16-17, what confidence do we have that Jesus' words are true and that he can truly raise the dead as well as the spiritually dead?

Prior to performing the miracle, with only the simple instruction in 11:25-26, what does Jesus ask Martha in 11:26b? What does this teach us about the nature of faith?

INTO MY LIFE

What do we learn about grief, where we can take it, and who can handle it based on Martha's response? How have you seen this to be true?

If you are willing to share, where can you still feel a bit like Mary & Martha needing more peace from a loved one's death?

What Bible passages have given you peace after a loved one's death? What act of kindness from a friend was helpful and supportive?

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