

“The Message in the Miracle” Pt6
The Resurrection of Faith
John 11 selected | March 28, 2021
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Question: How is it possible that our faith
grows in some of the worst of times?

“God whispers to us in our pleasures, He speaks to us in our conscience,
but shouts in our pains. It is His
megaphone to rouse a deaf world.” CS Lewis

James 1:2-3 “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your **faith** develops perseverance.”

Principle: Every circumstance you face is an opportunity for God to grow
your faith.

John 11: 1-8 “ Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.” ⁴ When He heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, He stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.”

⁸ “But Rabbi,” they said, “a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?”

Verse 11-14 “After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.”

¹² His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe.”

Verse 21-27 ““Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴ Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

Verse 35-36 “Jesus wept. ³⁶ Then the Jews said, “See how He loved him!”

Verse 38-39 “Take away the stone,” He said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

Verse 43 “When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

Verse 45 “Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, they put their faith in Him.”

Big Idea: My circumstances do not change who Jesus is. Jesus changes me through my circumstances.

ASK YOURSELF:

1. What circumstances (either currently or in the past) have caused you to doubt God’s goodness?
2. How have you reacted to difficult circumstances in the past? How have they brought you closer to God and helped you to grow? How have they caused you to be distant from God?
3. How has God shown his care and provision for you in the midst of difficult circumstances (either now or in the past)?
4. What would it look like for you to press into God’s provision in our current circumstances?