



## Week 20 : September 8-14 : John 11:1-16

### Introduction

During the Feast of Dedication, Jesus tells the Jews clearly one last time who he is and what he has come to accomplish. In spite of Jesus' attempt to get them to understand who he is, the Jews completely miss the point that the Son of God is standing in their midst. Instead of listening to Jesus and surrendering their lives to Jesus, they encircle him and pick up the stones they brought into the temple area to kill Jesus. In Chapter 11, Jesus gives a powerful example of his ability to give life.

### Open (Get comfortable talking with each other)

- 1) Do good things ever come as a result of living through difficult or painful situations? Discuss.
- 2) What was something from Sunday's sermon that stuck with you?

### Discover (Open the Bible to see how truth meets life.)

- 1) Read John 11:1-5. What kind of relationship did Jesus have with Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha?
- 2) When the sisters send word to Jesus that Lazarus is ill, what do you think they expected Jesus to do? Why did Jesus choose not to go immediately to see Lazarus (John 11:4)?
- 3) Read John 11:6-8. When Jesus does decide to go see Lazarus, how do the disciples respond? What is their concern? See John 10:31-21.
- 4) Read John 11:9-15. When Jesus tells the disciples that Lazarus has "fallen asleep" (verse 11), do the disciples understand that Lazarus has died? What is their response?
- 5) Which disciple speaks up and is ready to go with Jesus to Jerusalem, even if it means that he should die? Read John 11:16.

### Close (Look at the person in the mirror and decide to make a change.)

- 1) In most relationship, there will come a time when there is a gap between EXPECTATIONS and REALITY. When this gap occurs in healthy relationships, an expectant individual has a choice to make. Will you ASSUME THE WORST or BELIEVE THE BEST of your loved ones?

This is true with our relationship with God. When our expectation of God doesn't match our reality in life, we must choose to ASSUME THE WORST or BELIEVE THE BEST of God. Which choice will you make? If God loves you, he will always do what is best for you even when your expectation doesn't match your reality.

- 2) Read the Bible as a daily rhythm of life is great practice for healthy discipleship.

Day 1 – Luke 10:38-42

Day 2 – Matthew 11:1-6

Day 3 – John 5:24-26

Day 4 – John 11:17-43

Day 5 – John 12:1-11