

LESSON 9

A RESURRECTION OF HOPE

JOHN 11:1—12:50



1 How do people in our society deny mortality, the fact that death is inevitable for everyone?

2 How would you explain death to a six-year-old child?



Read John 11:1—12:50 and the following notes:

- ☐ 11:5–7 ☐ 11:14, 15 ☐ 11:35 ☐ 12:13 ☐ 12:16 ☐ 12:23–25 ☐ 12:27
☐ 12:31

3 What reason did Jesus give for waiting to go to Lazarus?

4 How did Martha and Mary respond when they saw Jesus?

5 Why did Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead? How did people respond to this?

6 How did Jesus face the prospect of his own death?

7 What can we learn from Martha’s conversations with Jesus in verses 21–27 and 39, 40?



The stark reality is that every person has to die. Many look at death with a sense of fear: “What lies ahead? . . . Is this life all there is?” Sometimes we react by holding on to this life, afraid to lose it and afraid to face the next. But the message of Jesus Christ is hope. Though we die, we will be raised again and live forever with Christ. He is preparing a place for us in heaven and coming back for us. Instead of fearing death, we can live with confidence. Our confidence is in his promise and in his demonstration of power over death. Knowing he is able to raise the dead and that he experienced death himself, we can take comfort in knowing he understands our deepest fears.

8 How do people love their life today (12:25)?

9 How can the story of Jesus and Lazarus give us hope?



10 What frightens you most about death and dying?

11 How can this story of Jesus and Lazarus help you prepare for death?

12 What in this life are you holding on to that you need to let go of and lose?



13 Make two lists, one of your fears and one of those things that tend to take priority over Christ in your life. Pray through these lists daily, asking God to remove your fears and giving him anything that stands in the way of total devotion to Christ.

Fears

Misplaced priorities

- A** What evidence for Jesus' deity does John appeal to in these verses?
- B** Why did Mary and Martha ask Jesus for help? How do you need his help?
- C** How can troubles be opportunities for honoring Christ?
- D** What does the story of Jesus and Lazarus teach us about God's timing? When have you tried to hurry God?
- E** Why did the disciples try to talk Jesus out of going to Jerusalem?
- F** Why did Jesus cry? What causes his sorrow today?
- G** Why didn't Lazarus's resurrection convince everyone of Jesus' divinity?
- H** How did Mary change from chapter 11 to chapter 12? How can you be more like Mary?
- I** What kind of person was Judas? Why did Jesus allow him to be a disciple?
- J** Why did the Jews want to kill Lazarus?
- K** What were the people expecting when they greeted Jesus at the gates of Jerusalem with such enthusiasm? What misconceptions do people have about Jesus today?
- L** Why was Jesus troubled (12:27)?
- M** What is implied concerning evangelism today in Jesus' statement "When I am lifted up on the cross, I will draw everyone to myself" (12:32)?
- N** What did Jesus mean when he told the disciples to "walk in [the light] while you can" (12:35)? How can we become children of light?
- O** To whom are you afraid to declare your faith? Of what are you afraid in declaring your faith?

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