



## Part 1: The Resurrection and Life

A close friend of Jesus became seriously ill. The man's sisters sent word to Jesus that their brother was sick hoping that Jesus would come and do what the doctors could not do: restore him to health. But Jesus delayed coming to them and their brother died. This occasion became the moment where Jesus declared that he was the resurrection and the life and that hope was found in him.

**Bottom Line:** Jesus is the author of life and has inherent power over death.

### Discussion Questions:

1. What polite phrases do people use to describe death?
2. Has the death of a family member or friend ever to cause you to doubt God's love or plan? Why or why not?
3. **Read John 11:1-4.** How do you respond to Jesus' statement that the death of Lazarus (and subsequently the emotional pain of his family and friends) would be used to glorify Jesus (the Son of God)?
  - a. Do you believe that God still uses difficult or painful circumstances in our lives for the purpose of bringing him glory? What is your response to this possibility or reality?
  - b. Describe a time when you believe God used a difficult or painful event in your life for his own glory?
4. **Read John 11:17-27.** It is one thing to claim that there will be a *resurrection* (v. 24). It is completely different to claim to *be the resurrection* (v. 25-26). What is the difference between the two claims and why does it matter?
5. **Read John 11:28-36.** Why do you think Jesus was so deeply affected emotionally to the point that he wept?
  - a. How does the strong emotional response of Jesus impact your ideas about God?
  - b. Describe a time when Jesus stepped into your hurt, confusion, and loss and brought comfort and hope to you.
6. How does the truth of Jesus's statement in verses 25-26 impact the way you live your life? How should it impact your life?
7. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you? How can the group pray for or encourage you this week?

\*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.