

May 2, 2021 Jesus Raises Lazarus

WATCH this week's Bible Story Video: link on our website: www.goodshepherdholmen.org

READ this week's story in your Bible: John 11: 1-45
OR in the Story Bible on Page 371

After you have read the story from John chapter 11 (or Pg 371 in the Story Bible), let's walk through it again together and see if we can learn something new!

When their brother was deathly ill, Mary and Martha sent word to Jesus for help. When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, he told his disciples that God would use this sickness to show his glory and the glory of his Jesus, his Son. After two more days, Jesus told his disciples that it was time for him to wake Lazarus up.

When Martha heard that Jesus had come, she went out to meet him. She told Jesus that she knew he could have kept Lazarus from dying. Martha was showing her faith because she knew that God would do whatever Jesus asked of him. Jesus promised Martha that her brother would rise from the dead. These words must have been so comforting for her to hear. She confessed that she knew that her brother would rise again in the resurrection on the last day. Jesus said to her, **"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die, and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."** (John 11:25) When Jesus said these words, he was pointing out that he is the giver of life and that he has the power to raise the dead. The promise he made to Martha applies to us too, all believers will have eternal life!

Next Mary came out to meet Jesus with her friends. When Jesus saw Mary weeping, he felt sad. He wept. This shows how truly human Jesus was and that he fully understands our feelings. He has felt the same emotions that we feel. He cried even though he knew what he was going to do because he cared about Mary and her friends and was sorry to see their sadness. Just as Jesus was sad for Mary, he also understands and is concerned for us whenever we feel sadness, pain, and other difficult emotions. And since Jesus is also true God, he not only understands our feelings but also has more love and power to help than any other human. What a comfort it is for us to know that Jesus both understands and helps us!

Jesus went to Lazarus' tomb and asked that they roll away the stone. Jesus told them "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" (John 11:40) He prayed out loud to God the Father in front of all the people who were there with him. He did this for their benefit- so that they would believe that God the Father had sent Jesus into the world. God the Father was using Lazarus' death to show the people that without a doubt, that Jesus is the son of God and the promised Savior. Next Jesus called Lazarus out of the grave and Lazarus came out, alive again!

Why is it a comfort to us to know that Jesus has power over death? He has the power to raise others from the dead, just as he raised Lazarus. We also know that since Jesus was raised from the dead, so too will we be raised on the last day.

Pray: Dear Jesus, you have given us the promise of eternal life. In times of trouble, help us to remember that you care about us. Thank you for the great comfort that your promise of life in heaven gives us. Amen

Comfort From Jesus Worksheet Answers (from top to bottom): 2. Stayed, 5. Believe, 1. Lazarus, 3. Asleep, 4. Martha, 7. Mary, 6. Savior, 9. Raised, 8. Cried

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Email a picture of your Sunday School craft to office@gsholmen.org

*We will be showing pictures sent to us on the Church Screens during announcements