

“Jesus in my Grief”

John 11³²⁻⁴⁴; Hebrews 5⁷; Luke 19⁴¹⁻⁴⁴

Opening Questions – Choose one.

- When was the first (or last) funeral you attended? What did/do you remember most about it?
- If you could raise one person from the dead, who would it be? Why?

Study Questions

- 1) **Read John 11:32-44.** What kind of relationship did Jesus have with Lazarus and his sisters? Why do you think Jesus didn't go immediately to help them?
- 2) How long had Lazarus been dead by the time Jesus arrived? How would you feel if you were Martha or Mary and you heard that Jesus had finally come?
- 3) Since Jesus knew he was going to raise Lazarus (v.11), why do you think “Jesus wept” (v.35)?
- 4) Why did Jesus raise Lazarus from the death?
- 5) What impact did this miracle have on people (vv.45, 53; 12⁹⁻¹¹) and why?

How could this passage be used to help someone who is facing death or despair (or has had to face a death/loss)?

- 6) **Read Hebrews 4:15-16; 5:7.** What does the writer want his readers to know about the priesthood of Jesus? How does Jesus' priesthood compare & contrast with the Old Testament priesthood?
- 7) What about having Jesus as our “great high priest” do you find most encouraging (cf. 2¹⁷⁻¹⁸; 3¹)?
- 8) **Read Luke 19:35-41.** How do you picture the scene in verses 35-38? What do you see? Hear? Feel?
- 9) What were the people expecting Jesus to do when he reached Jerusalem (v.11; Zechariah 9⁹⁻¹⁰)? How are their expectations similar to, or different from, his?
- 10) What caused Jesus to weep over Jerusalem (cf. 21²⁰)?¹

Who are you hoping and praying will recognize Jesus for who he is and put their faith in him?

¹ The Jews led a revolt and occupied Jerusalem in A.D. 66 initiating the first Roman-Jewish war. In response the Romans conducted a siege of Jerusalem, destroying the temple in A.D. 70 with only a portion of the western wall remaining.