

INTRODUCING JESUS

Guide to Sharing Jesus Through the Gospel of John

c 2012 Ian Terry

Chapter 11: Continuing Conflict...

The Death of Lazarus (1-16)

1. 1-4 Why don't the sisters ask Jesus to come to Bethany? --- Why do they merely inform Him of Lazarus' sickness? (3) _____
How can Jesus say in v 4 that Lazarus' sickness is "not unto death," but in v 14 that he has died? _____
How does Jesus' comment in v 4, "...for the glory of God," compare with 9:3?

2. 5-6 If Jesus loves them, why does He not go immediately? (5-6) _____
How does Jesus' inaction compare with 7:8-10? _____
3. 7-10 What does Jesus mean in v 9-10? _____
How do v 9-10 compare with Jesus being the "Light of the World?" (8:12)

4. 11-16 Why do you think Jesus refers to death as "sleep?" (11) _____
Why do you think Jesus delays going to Bethany until after Lazarus has died? (14-15)

5. **Think:** Why does Jesus always regard events from an eternal perspective? _____
Why do you think that Jesus doesn't submit to human pressure, but always acts on His own time schedule? _____
6. **Personal:** Would you like to have a friend like Jesus who loves you, and always looks out for your ultimate good? _____

The Resurrection and the Life (17-37)

1. 17-22 What is the significance of the four days? (17) _____
How would you describe the level of Martha's faith in v 21? _____ In v 22? _____
2. 23-27 Explain the statement that Jesus is "the resurrection and the life." (25) _____
How can it be that believers "shall never die?" (26) _____
Why does Martha say "I have believed," rather than "I believe?" (27) _____
3. 28-37 What are the differences and similarities in Mary's and Martha's reactions to Jesus? (21, 32) _____
What does v 33 say about Jesus? _____
Why does Jesus weep when He knows that Lazarus is about to be raised? (35) _____
What deficiency of faith among the Jews is evident in v 37? _____

4. **Think:** Why do you think that John records Jesus' emotional reaction at the distress of His friends? _____
5. **Personal:** Would you like to have a friend who is so concerned about you that he weeps over your sorrows? _____

Lazarus is Raised (38-46)

1. 38-42 Why does Martha have a problem opening the tomb when she had earlier confessed her faith in Jesus? (39) _____
Why does Jesus thank God *before* the prayer is answered? (41) _____
2. 43-44 How does the fact that Lazarus is bound further illustrate the power of Jesus? (44) _____
Why doesn't Jesus miraculously remove the grave cloths? _____ Why must humans unbind Him? (44) _____
3. 45-46 Why does such a remarkable miracle produce such opposite effects in those who witness it? _____
4. **Think:** Is there anything that Jesus can't do? _____
5. **Personal:** Would you like to have a saviour who is unlimited in power, and who weeps over your predicament? _____

They Plot to Kill Him (47-57)

1. 47-48 What is the attitude of the Jews to Jesus' miracles? (47-48) _____
Why would the Romans be angry if many believed in Jesus? _____
2. 49-53 What is the double meaning of v 50? _____
Do you think that Caiaphas knew the meaning of his prophesy? (51-52) _____
How does v 53 illustrate the progressive nature of unbelief? _____
3. 54-57 Is Jesus being a coward by going elsewhere? (54) _____ Why? _____
How do the circumstances of v 55-57 set the scene for a final resolution of the conflict with Jesus? _____
4. **Think:** How can the Jews acknowledge the reality of a miracle, and yet deny its spiritual implications? _____
5. **Personal:** If you reject the claims of Jesus, what are the spiritual implications for you? _____