



Part 8: What's Taking So Long

May 13 & 14, 2017

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John 11:1-35

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days,⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When you're low...

Send your friends to go get Jesus. (*verse 3*)

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles^[b] from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

Be real with Jesus about how you're feeling.

(*see also Psalm 22:1-2; Psalm 69:2-3; Matthew 27:46*)

²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Declare the truth of who Jesus is.

³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus wept.

Remember that Jesus hurts with us.

Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. – 1 Peter 5:7

For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only son... – John 3:16

Trust that something good can come of this.

(James 1:1; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 2 Corinthians 12:8-10)

Next Steps

- Read *The Problem of Pain* by C.S. Lewis
- Avoid regret by adding to your parenting tool belt with **Reset Families** on June 2 & 3. See details on today’s program insert and register at www.ctk.church or at the Connection Point today.

Small Group Questions

- 1) Have you ever been responsible for a low moment in your parent(s)’ life? (This could be light-hearted or more serious.)
- 2) Is there someone in your life who you are comfortable being real with even when it’s not pretty? Why are you so comfortable sharing your real feelings with them? How comfortable are you sharing your feelings with God?
- 3) Have you navigated a low season and been able to see something good come from it on the other side?
- 4) Is there a truth about who Jesus is that gives you comfort when you’re going through a low moment in life? What is it?
- 5) When Mary and Martha were in a low place, they sent their friends to get Jesus. How can we pray for you or someone you care about this week?