

JESUS MAKES LAZARUS ALIVE AGAIN

Bible Story #13A

John 11:1-45

1Lazarus was sick. Lazarus lived in the village of Bethany. He lived with his sisters, Martha and Mary. [Jesus was not in Bethany.] 3So Martha and Mary sent word to Jesus, “Lazarus is sick.”

5Jesus loved Martha and Mary and Lazarus. 6But he did not go to Lazarus. He waited two days.

7Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Let’s go. Lazarus is sleeping. I will wake him up. 13Actually, Jesus meant: Lazarus is dead.

12But the disciples did not understand Jesus. So the disciples said, “Lazarus is sleeping, so he will get well. [That is good.] ” 14Then Jesus said, “Lazarus is dead.”

15Jesus said to his disciples, “It is good that I did not go to Lazarus quickly. Now, you will believe in me. Let’s go to Lazarus now.”

17Jesus came to Bethany. 20Mary stayed in the house. But Martha went out of the village to meet Jesus. Martha said to Jesus, “You did not come quickly. So my brother died.”

23Jesus said to Martha, “Your brother will live again.” 24Martha answered, “I know my brother will live again on the last day – he will live again at the resurrection.”

25Jesus said, “I am the resurrection. I am the life.”

Jesus said, “People die. But, if they believe in me, they will live again. 26Do you believe this?”

27”Yes, Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “I believe you are the Messiah. You are God’s Son. God sent you to the world.”

28Then Martha went back home and called Mary, “Jesus wants to see you.” 29So Mary got up quickly and went to Jesus. 32Mary fell down at Jesus feet, [and Mary was crying]. She said, “You did not come quickly. So my brother died.”

33Jesus saw Mary crying, and Jesus saw everyone with Mary crying. So Jesus was very upset. 35Jesus cried.

36Then the people said, “He loved Lazarus very much.” 37But other people said, “Jesus healed a blind man – now the blind man can see. Lazarus was sick – couldn’t Jesus keep Lazarus from dying? Couldn’t Jesus make Lazarus well?” 38Again, Jesus was upset.

Jesus came to the tomb. The tomb was a cave. A big stone covered the entrance of the cave. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

But Martha said, "Lazarus has been in the tomb for four days. It stinks." ⁴⁰Then Jesus said, "Believe. And you will see God's glory." ⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up to heaven, and he said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. ⁴²You always hear me."

⁴³Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out of the tomb. Cloths were wrapped around his face and hands and feet. Jesus said to the people, "Take off the cloths. Let Lazarus go."

⁴⁵Many people saw this. They believed in Jesus.

Content Questions:**Discussion Questions:**

- What was wrong with Lazarus? (verse 1)
- How did Jesus feel about Martha, Mary & Lazarus? (verse 5)

Do you remember the story about Martha and Mary?
 [Martha was busy and worried about serving Jesus and the disciples.]
 [Mary was sitting at Jesus' feet and listening to Jesus.]

- How long did Jesus wait before he went to Lazarus? (verse 6)

Why do you think Jesus waited? (verse 15)

- What did Jesus say Lazarus was doing? (verse 7)
 - What did Jesus say he would do to Lazarus? (verse 7)
 - Jesus said, "Lazarus is sleeping," but what did Jesus **really** mean? (verse 13)

Why do you think Jesus said, "Lazarus is sleeping"?

Why are death and sleeping the same to Jesus?

- What did Mary do? (verse 20)
 - And what did Martha do? (verse 20)
- Why was Martha disappointed with Jesus? (verse 20)

What did Martha think that Jesus could have done? [Heal Lazarus.]

But, what did Martha think Jesus could not do?

Can Jesus do more than we think he can do?

- What did Jesus promise to Martha? (verse 23)
 - But, when did Martha think that Lazarus would live again? (verse 24)
 - But, what did Jesus say about himself? (the beginning of verse 25)

What do you think this means? What does "I am the resurrection" mean?

Who can say, "I am the resurrection"? Can you or I say that?!

- What did Jesus promise to people who believe in him?
 (the second half of verse 25)

- What did Martha believe about Jesus? (verse 27)

What do you think about Martha's faith?

- What did Jesus do when he saw Mary and everyone crying? (verse 35)

Jesus knew what he would do (verse 43)! So, why did Jesus cry?

Do you think God cares about our feelings?

Why (do you think) Jesus did different things with Martha & with Mary?

Does Jesus care about each person individually?

- Whom did Jesus talk to? (verses 41 & 42)
- What did Jesus do to Lazarus? (verse 43-44)
- What did many people think about Jesus? (verse 45)

Why did people believe in Jesus?