

SERMON OUTLINE John 11:1-16

Illness, Love, and Glory

JESUS LOVED LAZARUS AND HIS SISTERS

The Fact of Jesus' Love

The Origin of Jesus' Love

The Nature and Expressions of Jesus' Love

1. *Jesus loved Lazarus by caring about him in his suffering.*
2. *Jesus loved Lazarus by helping in his suffering.*
3. *Jesus loved Lazarus by being fearless in His love.*
4. *Jesus loved Lazarus above all by maximizing his view of the glory of God.*

The Future of Jesus' Love for this Family and this Family's Love for Jesus

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of all of this is that Jesus has a genuine, personal, practical love for all who trust in Him. And the big takeaways for us are to focus on understanding the nature of that love, in order that we might walk more fully in it, and in order that we might grow in it for those around us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. When you consider Jesus' love, what's the first thing that comes to mind? Do you tend to think more in terms of the transcendence or immanence of Jesus' love?
3. How have you personally experienced the love of Jesus? Can you name a specific, practical difference it's made?
4. Is it easier for you to share the gospel or your life with people? How could you grow in one or the other?
5. How have you been lovingly cared well for in your suffering? How have you lovingly cared well for someone else?
6. What's the most significant expression of loving help you've ever seen?
7. Have you ever withheld love out of fear? Where have you lived as if you were in the 13th hour? Who is someone you would love differently if you truly believed that Jesus was with you and death was gain?
8. How would you explain the connection between genuine love and the glory of God?
9. Can you restate Pastor Dave's definition of love in your own words? What alternative definitions have you heard?
10. Are there any ways in which your understanding of love has changed as a result of this text or sermon?
11. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

12. Ask one godly person who knows you well to share an area in your life that you might not see very well.
13. Make a list of several different passages that speak of God's love for His people. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you experience God's love more fully and live more completely in light of it.
14. Make a list of people you would like God's help to love in a more Christ-like way. Find one specific way to express your love for each of them this week—caring, helping, pointing them to God's glory, fearlessly sacrificing to bring the best to them.
15. Invite a non-Christian to your home for a meal this week.
16. Do your best to sketch, draw, or paint the scene in John 11.
17. Do something specific to help strengthen Grace Church this week.
18. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
19. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon? Share that and pray about it with someone in your DG. Continue praying for and checking in with each other until you've both done it.

PRAYER POINTS

20. Adoration. Praise God for being transcendent and immanent. Praise God for being perfectly loving.
21. Confess. Confess any ways you've failed to love out of lack of care or fear. Confess any ways you've been worldly in your ideas or expressions of love. Confess any ways you've rejected Jesus' love for you.
22. Thanksgiving. Thank God for loving you all the way. Thank God for a church that seeks to love one another with God's love. Thank God for whoever loved you enough to share the gospel with you. Thank God for anyone who has disciplined you.
23. Supplication. Ask God to help you to love the hurting. Ask God to help you to experience His love in Jesus more fully.