

SERMON OUTLINE John 11:17-37

Martha, Mary, and Resurrection

MARTHA (17-27)

Dead for Four Days (17-19)

Martha Met Jesus (20-23)

I Am the Resurrection and the Life (25-27)

MARY (28-37)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big ideas here are the deep compassion that was embedded in Jesus' love, the faith of the sisters, and the unparalleled glory and resurrection power of Jesus. And the main takeaway is to trust in Jesus' promises no matter what.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Is the idea that Christianity is true, and that it rises and falls on its truthfulness new to you? Have you ever met someone who believes themselves to be a Christian, but doesn't believe that some of the claims of Christianity are true?
3. How often, with Jesus present in your life to bless you, do you rebuke Him for not being present and blessing in the ways you determined He should? How often do you find yourself disappointed because of the circumstances in your life in spite of Jesus' repeated promises to use all of them—sweet and bitter alike—to bless you and accomplish the greatest good for you?
4. What's the tightest link you've ever experienced between your prayer and Jesus' answer?
5. Have you ever grieved in faith? What did it look like? Have you ever grieved faithlessly? What did that look like?
6. Do you live and believe in Jesus as the resurrection and the life? Is that the single and great hope of your life and eternal life? If so, are you giving yourself to putting this question in front of others?
7. Which of Jesus' commands do you need to stop putting off today? What promise do you need to believe today?
8. Have you ever heard of the distinction Pastor Dave made between sympathy and empathy? Does it seem right to you?
9. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

10. Ask one godly person who knows you well to share an area in your life that you might not see very well.
11. Find a specific way to express genuine sympathy to someone who is suffering and needs help this week.
12. Pray for something specific this week. Expect God to answer you or give something even better.
13. Share the gospel with someone this week and ask them explicitly if they believe in Jesus.
14. Identify one specific way you need to stop putting off following Jesus.
15. 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.
16. 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

17. Adoration. Praise God for being the resurrection and the life. Praise God for being love. Praise God for being merciful.
18. Confess. Confess any faithlessness or doubt in your life. Confess any times when you should have been sympathetic instead of empathetic. Confess any times you've grieved over one of Jesus' blessings. Confess any disobedience.
19. Thanksgiving. Thank God that His kindness never runs out for those who trust in Jesus. Thank God for resurrecting you from the (spiritual) dead. Thank God that He loves you in Jesus. Thank God that He cares for you always.
20. Supplication. Ask God to help you love someone who is hurting. Ask God to help you know His love for you. Ask God to grant us greater trust in His promises. Ask God to help you share the gospel with someone and help them believe.