



Journey with Jesus

TITLE:

NEVER EARLY, NEVER LATE

DATE: AUG 17, 2025

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 11: 1-44

OPENING THOUGHT

WE OFTEN EXPECT GOD TO MEET OUR TIMELINES, BUT HIS TIMING IS NOT BOUND BY OUR CLOCKS. IN LAZARUS'S STORY, WHAT SEEMED LIKE A DELAY WAS A DELIBERATE SETUP FOR GOD'S GLORY AND A DEEPER TRUST IN JESUS HIMSELF.

KEY SCRIPTURE VERSES

- ECCLESIASTES 3:1
- JOHN 11: 4
- JOHN 11: 35
- JOHN 11: 40
- PROVERBS 3: 5-6
- JOHN 11:25-26 (NLT) — JESUS TOLD HER, "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.

KEY POINTS

- GOD'S DELAY IS OFTEN HIS DESIGN TO REVEAL GREATER GLORY.
- RESURRECTION IS NOT JUST AN EVENT—IT'S THE PERSON OF JESUS.
- HONEST FAITH BRINGS FEARS AND DOUBTS BUT KEEPS MOVING TOWARD JESUS.
- JESUS FEELS OUR PAIN BEFORE HE ACTS FOR US.
- IF IT STILL STINKS, IT'S THE PERFECT PLACE FOR JESUS TO SPEAK LIFE.

5 DISCUSSION QUESTION'S

1. WHEN HAVE YOU FELT GOD WAS "LATE" IN ANSWERING YOUR PRAYERS? LOOKING BACK, WHAT DID YOU LEARN ABOUT HIS TIMING?
2. HOW DOES SEEING RESURRECTION AS A PERSON RATHER THAN AN EVENT CHANGE THE WAY YOU VIEW YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS?
3. THOMAS FOLLOWED JESUS INTO DANGER DESPITE HIS DOUBTS. WHAT DOES THAT TEACH US ABOUT FAITH IN UNCERTAIN TIMES?
4. WHY DO YOU THINK JESUS CHOSE TO WEEP BEFORE RAISING LAZARUS? WHAT DOES THAT SHOW ABOUT HIS CHARACTER?
5. WHAT "FOURTH DAY" SITUATIONS IN YOUR LIFE FEEL HOPELESS? HOW CAN THIS PASSAGE RENEW YOUR TRUST?

CLOSING ENCOURAGEMENT

GOD'S TIMING IS NEVER RUSHED AND NEVER DELAYED—IT'S PERFECTLY ALIGNED WITH HIS PURPOSE. TRUST HIS HEART WHEN YOU CAN'T TRACE HIS HAND, AND KEEP WALKING TOWARD HIM. THE STONE YOU THINK SEALS YOUR DEFEAT MAY BE THE VERY PLACE HE CALLS NEW LIFE.