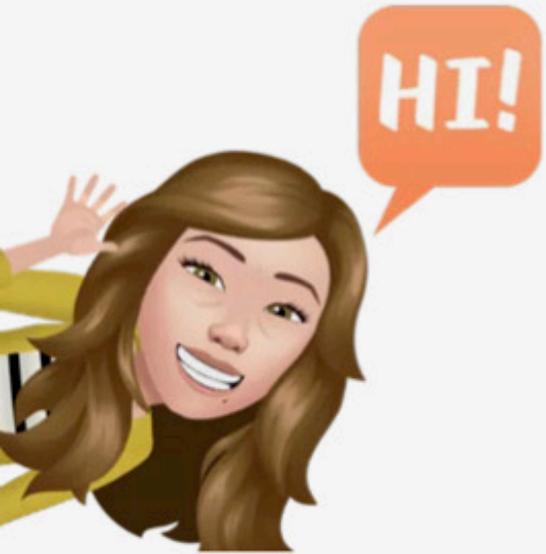




welcome to
sierra community church

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE

..with



HILARY



LORI



CORBETT

**TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT EMAIL
LORI@SIERRA.CHURCH**

Ski-Week Break



Feb. 15th – 19th



Jordan Morgan

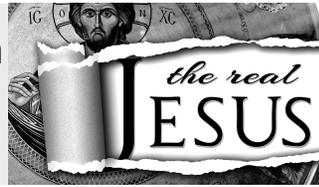
Serving in Thailand



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Lazarus: A Matter of Life & Death

The Real Jesus- Part 32 John 11:1-17&32-57
Noah Largent 2/14/21



1. The privilege of Prayer.

The Bible makes an astounding claim: that you can talk to the maker and sustainer of the universe! In fact, the Bible encourages us to be bold with that privilege!

Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (also see: **Lk 11:1-13: James 1:5 & 5:13; 1Thes. 5:17**)

Pastor Tim Keller makes this observations, "If you look carefully, you'll see Mary and Martha actually handled this tremendous difficulty, first by praying. They send a message to Jesus. They said, "... the one you love is sick." **Prayer should be the first resort, not the last.** Many of you have heard the statement, "Well, there's nothing left to do but pray?" Let me tell you something. If you were the last person people came to and they said, "We've tried everybody else but you. We're so desperate we're going to ask you. Can you help?" How do you feel about that? Do you feel really honored?"

-Tim Keller: "The Love of Christ" Part 1—Aug. 25, 1991

2. Prayer and the Problem of Expectation.

Correctly, Mary and Martha first seek Jesus' help! However, when He doesn't respond in their timing, Mary, clearly disappointed says, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died".

When you pray and don't get the answer or the timing you want, how do you react? What does your reaction tell you about your relationship with God?

3. The Great Exchange.

Commentator Craig Keener correctly recognizes the high drama in these verses (Jn. 11:16), raising Lazarus will not be celebrated by everyone, "Thomas ironically understands Jesus correctly: for Jesus to raise Lazarus will cost him his own life".

What the disciples failed to see in the moment was that Jesus' death, burial, resurrection and ascension to heaven would be the final act of Jesus' mission. He was ready. He knew that giving Lazarus life would be the final straw for the leaders in Jerusalem, leading them to crucify Him. Ultimately Jesus gave His life for **ALL** who would put their trust in him.

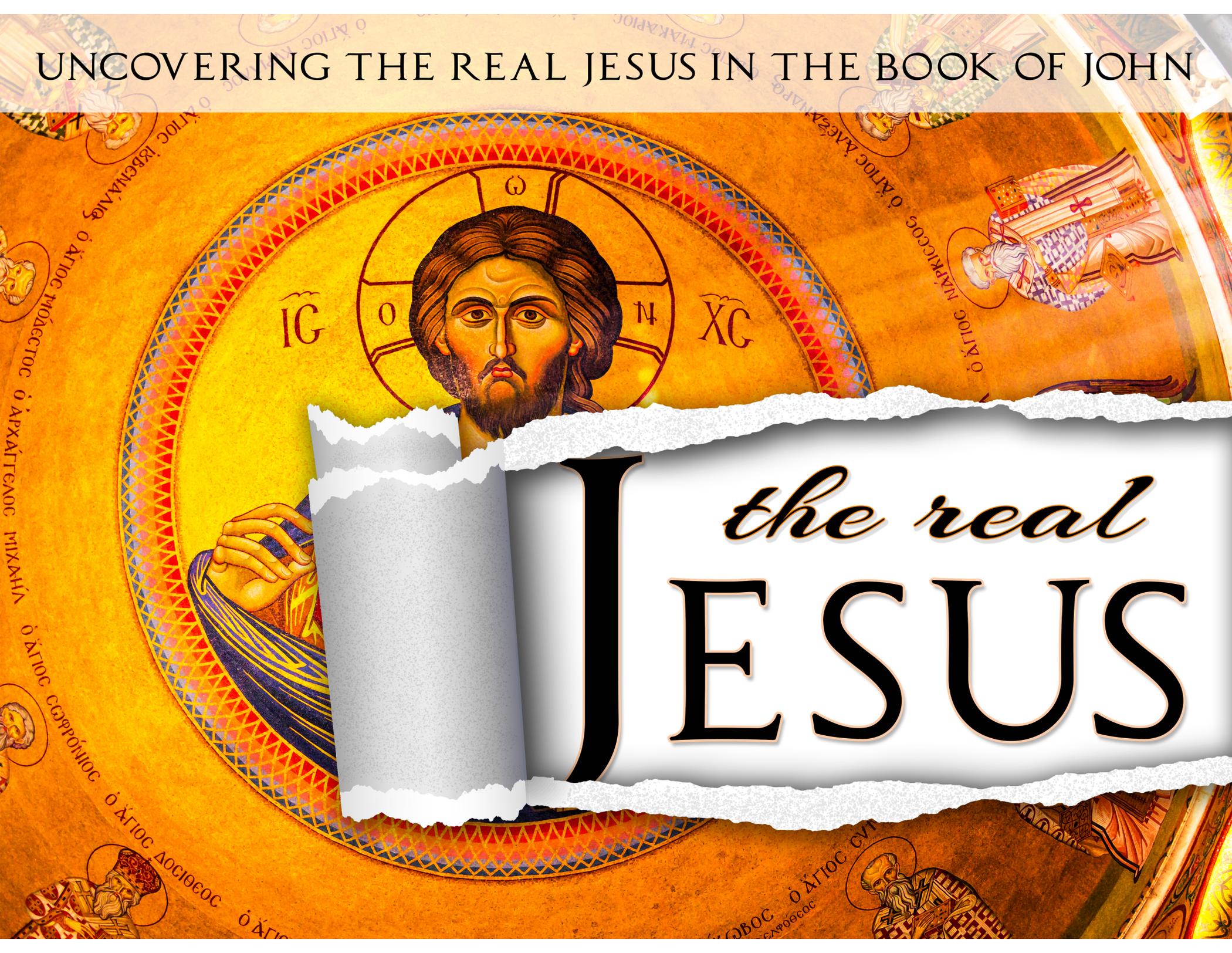


Community Group Questions:

1. What did you hear? What hit home from the message? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
2. Everyone who prays finds that God's timing and answers are not always ours. Thinking about Mary's initial disappointment (John 11:32), what's it look like for us to pray with consistent sincerity yet be at peace with God's outcomes and not our own?
3. Go to www.sierra.church sermons page and click on "Action Plan" for this weeks message. Spend a few minutes reading Praying as Paul prayed. What can you learn about prayer from the way Paul prayed for others?

Notes:

UNCOVERING THE REAL JESUS IN THE BOOK OF JOHN



the real
JESUS

John 11:1-17

Now a man was sick, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² This was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. ³ So the sisters sent word to Him, saying, "Lord, he whom You love is sick."

John 11:1-17

4 When Jesus heard this, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified by it."

John 11:1-17

4 When Jesus heard this, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but **for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified by it.**"

John 11:1-17

⁴ When Jesus heard this, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified by it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. ⁶ So when He heard that he was sick, He remained where He was two more days.

John 11:1-17

⁷ Then after this He said to the disciples, “Let us go into Judea again.” ⁸ His disciples said to Him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone You. Are You going there again?”

⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

John 11:1-17

¹⁰ But if anyone walks during the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” ¹¹ After He said this, He said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep. But I am going that I may awaken him from sleep.” ¹² Then His disciples said, “Lord, if he is sleeping, he will be well.”

John 11:1-17

¹³ Jesus had spoken of his death. But they thought that He was speaking of getting rest through sleep. ¹⁴ So then Jesus plainly told them, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him."

John 11:1-17

¹⁶ Then Thomas, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us go also, that we may die with Him.”

John 11:1-17

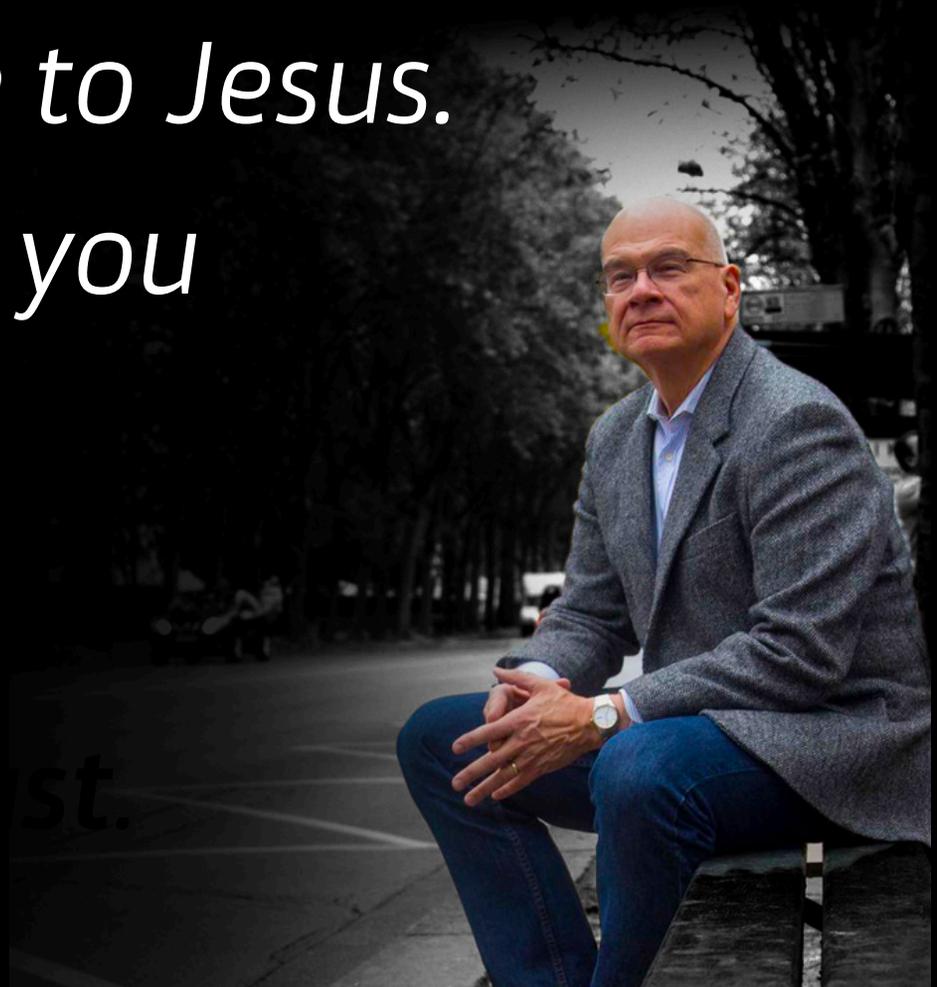
¹⁶ Then Thomas, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us go also, that we may die with Him.”

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, He found that he had been in the tomb four days already.

The Privilege of Prayer.

The Bible makes an astounding claim: that you can talk to the maker and sustainer of the universe! In fact, the Bible encourages us to be bold with that privilege!

*“If you look carefully, you’ll see Mary and Martha actually handled this tremendous difficulty, **first** by praying. They send a message to Jesus. They said, “... the one you love is sick.”*



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Prayer should be the first resort, not the last.



Many of you have heard the statement, “Well, there’s nothing left to do but pray?” Let me tell you something. If you were the last person people came to and they said, “We’ve tried everybody else but you. We’re so desperate we’re going to ask you. Can you help?”

*How do you feel about that?
Do you feel really honored?”*



Prayer and the Problem of Expectation.

Correctly, Mary and Martha first seek Jesus' help! However, when He doesn't respond in their timing, Mary, clearly disappointed says, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died".

Prayer and the Problem of Expectation.

When you pray and don't get the answer or the timing you want, how do you react? What does your reaction tell you about your relationship with God?

John 11:45-57

The Plot to Kill Jesus

⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what Jesus had done, believed in Him. ⁴⁶ But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷ Then the chief priests and the Pharisees assembled the Sanhedrin and said, "What shall we do? This Man is performing many signs.

John 11:32-57

⁴⁸ If we leave Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our nation.” ⁴⁹ Then one of them named Caiaphas, who was the high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all, ⁵⁰ nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, that the whole nation should not perish.”

John 11:32-57

⁵¹ He did not say this on his own authority. But being the high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵² and not for the nation only, but that He might also gather together in unity the children of God who were scattered abroad. ⁵³ So from that day forward they planned to put Him to death.

John 11:32-57

⁵⁴ Therefore Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went away from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and remained there with His disciples. ⁵⁵ Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand. Many went up to Jerusalem from the country before the Passover to purify themselves.

John 11:32-57

⁵⁶ Then they searched for Jesus and said among themselves as they stood in the temple, “What do you think, that He will not come to the feast?” ⁵⁷ Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he should report it, that they might seize Him.

The Great Exchange

What the disciples failed to see in the moment was that Jesus' death, burial, resurrection and ascension to heaven would be the final act of Jesus' mission. He was ready. He knew that giving Lazarus life would be the final straw for the leaders in Jerusalem, leading them to crucify Him. Ultimately Jesus gave His life for ALL who would put their trust in him.



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