Life, Death, and Resurrection: Exploring Jesus' Power in the Gospels



Discover Christ's power over death and His compassion through John 11:1—44, exploring the Gospels' message of hope and resurrection.





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Introduction

The Gospels are powerful accounts of Jesus Christ's life, ministry, and divine authority. Among the many remarkable stories, the raising of Lazarus stands out as a profound testament to Jesus' victory over death and His tender compassion for those who mourn. In **John 11:1—44**, we witness not only a miraculous event but also a deep display of Jesus' heart toward human grief.

Death is an unavoidable reality that touches every life. Yet, in the Gospel of John, we see Jesus confronting death not with fear or avoidance but with the power and authority given to Him by the Father. This passage offers hope that life is greater than death and that Jesus is the source of true resurrection.

As we journey through this 7-day study plan, we will delve into the meaning of Jesus' miracles, His compassion, and His promise of eternal life. We will explore His interactions with those closest to Lazarus—Martha, Mary, and the onlookers—and how these moments reveal profound truths about faith, trust, and God's timing.

Let this study deepen your understanding of Jesus' divine nature and His personal care for each of us. Whether you are facing grief or seeking assurance in God's promises, the story of Lazarus encourages us to hope in the One who has power over life and death.

















Your Verse

John 11:33 – When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 34:18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
- Matthew 9:36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.







Devotional: Jesus' Deep Compassion in Our Grief

Jesus' compassion is at the very heart of the Lazarus story. When Jesus arrives in Bethany and sees Mary and the others mourning, the Scripture tells us He was deeply moved and troubled. This moment reveals Jesus' true humanity—He does not stand distant from our pain but draws near and shares in our sorrow.

In our own lives, grief can feel isolating and overwhelming, but Jesus meets us there. His compassion assures us that our pain is not ignored or minimized. Rather, He walks alongside us in those dark valleys. Taking time to reflect on Jesus' emotional response helps us remember that God cares deeply for us.

How might we practice compassion in our own lives, following Jesus' example? And how does knowing Jesus feels our pain change the way we approach Him in times of hardship?







Reflect and Apply

1.	How have you experienced Jesus' compassion during difficult times?
2.	In what ways can you show compassion to others who are grieving?
3.	What does Jesus' empathy teach you about God's character?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time when you felt God's compassion during a hard season.
2.	Reflect on how Jesus' response to grief differs from world's expectations.
3.	Identify someone in your life who needs compassion and pray for them.







Prayer for Today

Dear Lord, thank You for being a God who understands our pain and walks with us through grief. Help me to feel Your comforting presence when I am hurting. Teach me to extend Your compassion to those around me, so that I may reflect Your heart. Strengthen my faith to trust in Your timing, even when I cannot see the full picture. Amen.

















Your Verse

John 11:6 - So Jesus told his disciples, 'This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.'

Supporting Scriptures

- Ecclesiastes 3:1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.
- Habakkuk 2:3 For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false.







Devotional: Trusting God's Perfect Timing

God's timing often challenges us, especially when we want immediate answers or relief. When Jesus heard of Lazarus' illness, He intentionally delayed going to Bethany, knowing the outcome would ultimately glorify God. Sometimes God's delays are not denials but opportunities for His glory to be revealed.

Faith requires trusting in God's timing even when it doesn't align with our desires. It is in waiting that our faith matures and His purposes unfold. The story of Lazarus teaches us to relinquish control and believe that God is at work behind the scenes.

Consider how impatience might be affecting your relationship with God. Are you willing to surrender your timeline and trust His perfect plan?







Reflect and Apply

	What situations in your life require more patience and faith in God's timing?
2.	How can waiting reveal God's glory in ways instant answers cannot?
3.	In what ways has God's timing surprised you with blessings?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Journal a story where waiting on God brought unexpected good.
2.	Write about your feelings during times of delay and how God met you.
3.	List Scriptures that encourage patience and trust in God's timing.







Prayer for Today

Father, help me to trust Your perfect timing above my own understanding. Teach me patience and faith as I wait for Your plans to unfold. May Your glory be revealed in every delay and difficulty I face. Strengthen my heart to rest in Your sovereign control. Amen.

















Day 3: 🎇 Jesus' Authority Over Death

Your Verse

John 11:25 – Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.'

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 6:9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.
- 1 Corinthians 15:54 Death has been swallowed up in victory.







Day 3: 🎇 Jesus' Authority Over Death

Devotional: Christ's Power Over Death Gives Us Hope

One of the most profound truths Jesus declares is His authority over death: 'I am the resurrection and the life.' This statement offers hope that death is not the final word for those who believe in Him. It is a promise of eternal life, a life that transcends physical death and continues in God's presence.

This authority is not abstract but was demonstrated powerfully when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus' power over death is a cornerstone of our faith as Christians. It redefines how we see life, eternity, and the hope we carry even in the shadow of death.

Reflect on what it means for Jesus to be your resurrection and your life. How does this assurance change how you face mortality and loss?







Day 3: 💥 Jesus' Authority Over Death

Reflect and Apply

1.	How does Jesus' claim about resurrection affect your view of death?
2.	What fears about death does this promise help to overcome?
3.	How can you live differently today knowing eternal life is certain?







Day 3: 💥 Jesus' Authority Over Death

Journaling Prompts

1.	Describe your understanding of eternal life through Jesus.
2.	Write about a time when you faced loss but found hope in Christ.
3.	List ways to share the hope of resurrection with others.







Day 3: 🎇 Jesus' Authority Over Death

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the resurrection and the life. Help me to live with the peace and hope that come from knowing You have power over death. Strengthen my faith and remove any fear of what lies beyond this life. May I share this hope boldly with those around me. Amen.









Day 4: 🥰 Jesus Weeps with Us









Day 4: W Jesus Weeps with Us

Your Verse

John 11:35 - Jesus wept.

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 56:8 You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle.
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 God comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort others.







Day 4: 🥞 Jesus Weeps with Us

Devotional: God's Empathy Evident in Jesus' Tears

In the shortest verse of the Bible we see one of the most powerful moments: 'Jesus wept.' It is a profound demonstration of Jesus' empathy and willingness to share our pain fully. Even knowing He would raise Lazarus, He enters the grief of Mary, Martha, and others mourning deeply.

This shows us that feeling sorrow and crying are not signs of weak faith but natural human experiences that God Himself understands. Jesus' tears teach us that God is not distant or impassive, but intimately involved with our emotions.

How often do we hide our pain, thinking it is a sign of disbelief? Jesus invites us to bring our whole selves to Him—our joy, our questions, and our tears.







Day 4: 😢 Jesus Weeps with Us

Reflect and Apply

1.	What does Jesus' weeping reveal about His connection to our emotions?
2.	How might you bring your authentic feelings to God more openly?
	Who around you might need someone who can empathize with their pain?







Day 4: 😂 Jesus Weeps with Us

Journaling Prompts

	Write about how expressing your emotions has affected your faith journey.
2.	Reflect on a time God comforted you during sorrow.
3.	Consider ways you can offer empathy and comfort to others today.







Day 4: 😂 Jesus Weeps with Us

Prayer for Today

Compassionate Savior, thank You for weeping with me and feeling every sorrow I carry. Teach me to approach You with honesty about my emotions and to trust Your comfort. Help me to be a source of empathy to those who are hurting. May Your love heal all wounds. Amen.

















Your Verse

John 11:21 – Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'

Supporting Scriptures

- Mark 11:24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.
- James 1:6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt.







Devotional: Bold Faith in the Midst of Doubt

Martha's words show a faith that is honest yet filled with longing—she believed Jesus could have prevented Lazarus' death. Her statement invites us to examine the nature of our prayers and faith. Faith isn't merely quiet trust; sometimes it is bold, questioning, and urgent.

Jesus does not rebuke Martha's faith but uses this moment to deepen understanding about resurrection and eternal life. Our faith may wrestle with unanswered prayers, but it is in persistent calling on Jesus that trust grows.

Are you willing to bring your doubts and desires openly to Jesus? He welcomes heartfelt prayers and works all things for His glory.







Reflect and Apply

How do you express your faith when facing unanswered prayers?
In what ways can honest dialogue with God strengthen your trust?
What can you learn from Martha's faith journey about prayer?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write a prayer expressing your honest needs and hopes to God.
2.	Reflect on a time when faith grew through a tough season.
3.	List promises of God that encourage you to keep believing.







Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, help me to bring all my questions and faith-filled requests before You. Teach me to pray boldly and trust in Your timing and ways. Grow my faith even when answers seem delayed. Thank You for hearing every cry of my heart. Amen. 😢 🙏 🗱

















Your Verse

John 11:43–44 – When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen.

Supporting Scriptures

- 1 Thessalonians 4:14 We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.
- Revelation 21:4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.







Devotional: Living Hope Through Resurrection Power

The climax of this passage is Jesus calling Lazarus from the tomb, demonstrating His power to give life where there is death. This miracle serves as a powerful symbol of the resurrection hope all believers share—death is not the end, but a passage to eternal life with God.

For those mourning loss or fearing death, this scene presents a promise—a hope that surpasses the grave. Jesus' voice brings life, freedom, and restoration.

As you meditate on this dramatic scene, allow the hope of resurrection to fill your heart and renew your faith in a future where suffering will cease.







Reflect and Apply

	How does the resurrection of Lazarus influence your perspective on death?
2.	What hope can you share with others who fear loss and grief?
3.	How does this miracle inspire you to live with eternal purpose?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Journal about what resurrection hope means to you personally.
2.	Write a letter to someone grieving, sharing the hope found in Christ.
3.	Reflect on how the promise of eternal life shapes your daily living.







Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for the hope of resurrection and eternal life through Jesus. Help me to live confidently in that hope, even when faced with loss and sorrow. May Your power bring new life to my doubts and fears. Empower me to share this hope with others. Amen.

















Your Verse

John 11:40 - 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?'

Supporting Scriptures

- Colossians 3:1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- Romans 8:11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies.







Devotional: Living Each Day in Resurrection Power

Jesus challenges Martha—and us—to believe in God's glory and live as those raised to new life. Walking in resurrection life means embracing the power and presence of Christ daily, trusting that He is alive and active in us.

This new life affects how we see difficulties, fear, and purpose. It invites us to live with confidence, joy, and a heart set on eternal things. The story of Lazarus is not just a past miracle but a present reality for followers of Christ.

Reflect on how the resurrection power works in your life and how you can live in that reality each day.







Reflect and Apply

What does walking in resurrection life look like practically for you?
How can you cultivate a greater awareness of God's presence daily?
In what ways can you reflect God's glory to those around you?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Describe how your life changes when centered on Christ's resurrection.
2.	Write about specific steps to live more fully in God's power today.
3.	Reflect on how resurrection life inspires hope in challenging moments.







Prayer for Today







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