

## Message Notes | Encounters with Jesus

### Part 3: Grieving Sisters

John 11:1-43

- grief over a miracle that never came
- implications of healing a blind man - **vs. 4-8**

#### #1 Every miracle has \_\_\_\_\_.

- what's your "even now"? - **vs. 14-22**
- truth for Martha, tears for Mary - **vs. 23-35**

#### #2 When grief is not kept from you, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_ you.

- what they saw when they opened the tomb - **vs. 36-42**

#### #3 Miracles serve to \_\_\_\_\_ God's \_\_\_\_\_, not just \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_.

- a miracle with consequences - **vs. 43-44, 53**

#### #4 Even now, you \_\_\_\_\_.

## Group Questions | Encounters with Jesus

### Part 3: Grieving Sisters

John 11:1-43

1. Have you ever asked for a miracle that didn't happen? If so, what was it, and how did that experience affect your faith?
2. Jesus knew that miracles could potentially have negative consequences. What are some examples of this from Scripture? (If needed, one example is John 6:14-15.)
3. **Read John 11:21-22.** What did the phrase "even now" represent for Martha?  
  
What kind of "even now" situations are you facing right now?
4. **Read John 11:21-27.** Pay special attention to how the conversation begins and how it ends. How does the focus shift, and what does this teach us about processing grief in a healthy way?
5. Jesus' miracles were designed to elevate God's glory, not just alleviate human suffering. Why can it be so difficult to remember this?
6. Jesus inhabited your grief in its fullest expression when he died on the cross. Because he rose again victoriously, you inhabit his peace *even now*. What does it look like to inhabit peace even as you experience intense, tearful grief?
7. Share some examples, either personal or scriptural, that show how God's glory can be shown whether prayers for miracles are answered or not. How might this change the way you pray for miracles in the future?

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#### #1 Every miracle has consequences.

- what's your "even now"? - **vs. 14-22**
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#### #2 When grief is not kept from you, Jesus inhabits it with you.

- what they saw when they opened the tomb - **vs. 36-42**

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- a miracle with consequences - **vs. 43-44, 53**

#### #4 Even now, you inhabit peace.

## Bible Reading for Today

### John 11:32-44

<sup>32</sup> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup> "Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.

<sup>36</sup> Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup> "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>

The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."