

Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of September 17-18, 2022

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

Larger Than Life

(John 11)

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud together John 11.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create a curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Pastor Alan's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

Mary, Martha, and even the disciples find it frustrating the way Jesus chose to respond to this situation (John 11:8, 21, 32).

When, if ever, have you experienced similar frustration with Jesus not responding in your own life or the life of someone you know as you thought he should?

How did you reconcile that frustration? Have you reconciled that situation?

In this particular event with Lazarus, Jesus shares that "...it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it."

When, if ever, have you seen in your own life a situation where frustration with God turned into one where you saw His glory revealed – where maybe it took some hindsight to see it?

As we move through this story, we witness again Jesus being very clear about who he is. “...I am the resurrection and the life.” (vs. 25).

If we truly believe this claim, how can this impact us as we face the difficulties of life?

Is this claim impacting how you react to life’s challenges? If yes, how? If not, why not?

When Mary encounters Jesus, we see an authentic outpouring of emotion from her, and we see Jesus respond in kind (vs. 33, 35).

How authentic have you been (or are you right now) with Jesus as you wrestle with pain and disappointment?

What encouragement, if any, do you draw from the fact that Jesus’ initial response to Mary’s pain was to weep alongside her?

If true empathy is not feeling what others feel, but instead is being willing to feel with another person, are you allowing Jesus to be with you in your pain? Elaborate.

Similarly, is there someone in your life today that could use the same type of empathy that Jesus gave Mary in that moment – someone you could be with in their pain?

While joining us in our pain, Jesus also offers an ultimate triumphant answer to that pain (vs. 44).

How, if at all, is God’s ultimate victory over death helping you navigate the challenges of life today?

How fully are you living in the reality of this promise?

Is anything holding you back?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend’s message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

Messages are available in audio or video on our App or at cccgreeley.org.