



I AM

WEEK 6 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- This week, we are talking about Jesus being The Resurrection and the Life. In the strictest sense, resurrection means to rise from the dead. However, for Christians, this also means to have a new life. In sports, some of the greatest games of all time involved a team that had the game lost, but came back from the dead, and something happened to give them new life, and, eventually, that team won in miraculous fashion. **Has something ever happened that gave you new life? A job change? A new relationship? Maybe you have your own sports story of resurrection and new life? Share this with your group.**

CONSIDER

- What was encouraging or challenging from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

CHRIST

Read John 11:6-15.

- Here we see the story of Lazarus being raised from death by Jesus. However, in these verses we see Jesus' reaction upon hearing that Lazarus was deathly sick. Through worldly eyes, His reaction is confusing. He delayed His journey to see Lazarus for two more days and returned to an area where people had stoned Him. He also said He was glad that Lazarus died before He got to where Lazarus was. **Discuss why you think Jesus had this reaction, and is there a lesson for us to learn.**

Read John 11:20-26.

- We read earlier in verse 15 that one reason Jesus delayed coming to Lazarus was *"so that you may believe."* If Jesus came before Lazarus died and healed him, that would not have done as much to increase their belief as if He raised Lazarus from death. Here, we see Jesus asking Martha, *"Do you believe this?"* **Do you find that you ever doubt the power of Jesus? Do you believe He can only do so much in your life? Do you believe this is a problem for the church in general?**
- Verse 25 is an often-quoted portion of Scripture, where Jesus says, *"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."* Jesus often uses

these seemingly paradoxical statements to make His point, to wake us up to the power that is found in Him. Using this paradoxical statement, fill in the blank as it pertains to you. I must die to _____ in order to live a more full and abundant life in Christ. Is it doubt? Is it fear? Is it control? Fill in the blank for yourself and share this with your group.

Read John 11:33-37.

- Here we see the shortest verse found in scripture, *“Jesus wept”* (v.35). However, it is also a powerful verse because it shows Jesus’ compassion, not just for Mary and Martha, but for all of us. Do you find yourself thinking or believing that Jesus has compassion for us, or do you think that Jesus is just disappointed in us? If the latter, does this stop you from going to Him in prayer or asking Him to be present in your life?

Read John 11:38-44.

- Up to this point in Jesus’ ministry, He had performed many miracles. However, this time He made a point to look up to God and thank Him. He even said, *“for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”* There is a powerful message for us to not try to do things in our own strength, but in the power of God and to give glory to God and acknowledge Him before others. What can you give God glory for today in your life? Make a point to acknowledge God for the good things in your life before others.

CALLING

- A central theme of this discussion on the resurrection is what does the resurrected life in Jesus look like for us. We have been given a new life in Christ. Take some time to consider what this means in your life. What will you do with this new life you have found? What will you do with your time? How do you live out your faith in the sphere of influence in your life?
- **Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with Northside devotions. Text DEVO to 81212 or use the Study tab in Northside’s mobile app for daily devotions.
- **Memorize:**
“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.”
John 11:25 (NIV)
- **Further Study:** Press into these Scriptures about light and darkness:
 - Matthew 27:50-53
 - 1 Corinthians 15
 - Philippians 3:7-14
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:14