

Lent Week 5: Jesus Raises Lazarus

Jesus stays near in grief and calls his friend to life

Ages about 7-11 | Video 2:10 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Jesus shares Mary and Martha's sorrow, then calls Lazarus from the tomb alive.

Learning goals Recall Jesus' tears and Lazarus' return; distinguish this sign from a promise about every loss; and choose a gentle response to someone grieving.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask what helpful company can look like when someone is sad. Watch how Jesus responds to his friends' grief.

Watch and notice

Notice the four days, Jesus weeping, the tomb, his call to Lazarus, and Lazarus coming out alive.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. Why were Mary and Martha grieving?

Their brother Lazarus had died. He was Jesus' friend too, and the family was sorrowful.

2. What did Jesus do before raising Lazarus?

He listened, stayed near, and wept. Tears can express real love; they are not a failure of faith.

3. What happened when Jesus called Lazarus?

Lazarus came out of the tomb alive. This sign reveals Jesus' life-giving power.

4. How can you support someone grieving?

Offer patient company, listen, pray, and ask a trusted adult what help is appropriate. Do not promise that their loved one will return as Lazarus did.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

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Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw Jesus standing with his grieving friends. Then draw a gentle way to support someone sad. Accept an oral explanation.

Read & Write Recall the story, explain its central teaching, then apply it through a specific choice.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: draw or dictate answers; revisit the named story moment together.

Ages 9-11: explain the connection between the story detail and the planned response.

Near in sadness | Optional 4 minutes

Make a gentle support card with three boxes: Listen, Be Present, and Ask for Help. Add a respectful phrase in each, such as I am here or Would you like company? Connect them with Jesus' care for his friends. Do not require the card to be sent to a bereaved person.

Look for understanding Look for the named story details in the answers and a practical response connected to Jesus' love, grief, and the sign of life.

Closing prayer Jesus, stay near those who grieve. Help us offer patient care and trust your promise of life. Amen.

At home Share your support card with an adult and pray for someone who needs comfort.

Handout answer notes Lazarus was raised. Jesus' tears express love and shared sorrow. Responses should offer company and care, not a guarantee of another miraculous return.

Teach with care

Preview the death and tomb language. Allow children to pass, and do not ask for personal bereavement stories. Keep family beliefs and needs in view. John 11 presents a unique sign; it does not promise that all deceased loved ones return to earthly life. Lazarus returned to mortal life, unlike Jesus' glorified Resurrection. Grief is not weak faith and should not be rushed.

Words to explain Grief: sadness after a loss. Tomb: a burial place. Resurrection: rising from death; Jesus' victory gives us lasting hope.

Sources for the leader

Story source: [Servus Dei video and English transcript](#)

Background: [John 11:1-44: Lazarus and Jesus' tears](#)

Love stays near

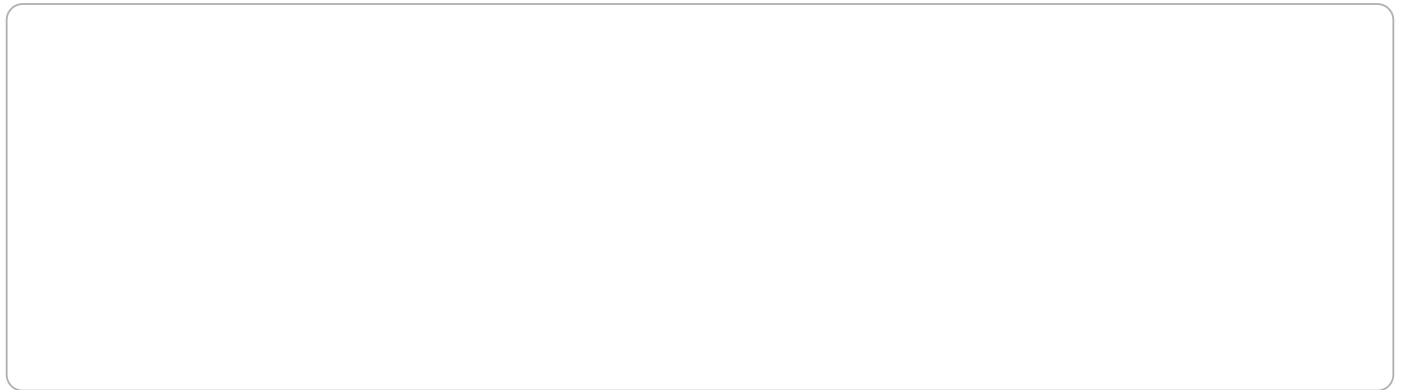
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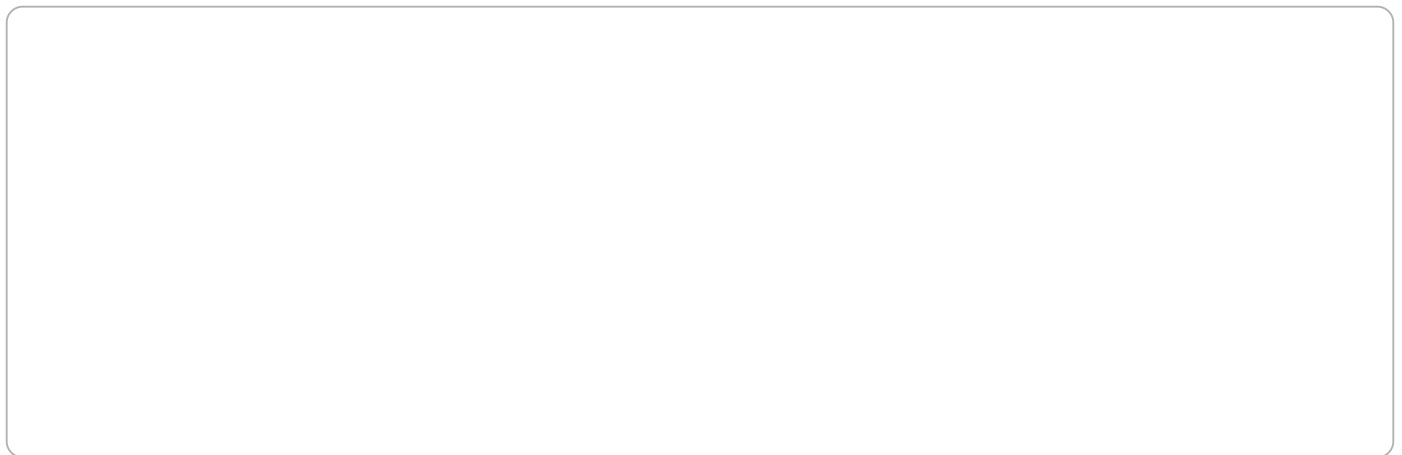
Name _____

Adult helper Read aloud. Invite drawing, pointing, or spoken answers. Writing is optional.

1 Draw Jesus standing with his grieving friends.



2 Draw a gentle way to support someone sad.



Tell What do Jesus' tears show? How can your action offer care without making promises?

Pray Jesus, stay near those who grieve. Help us offer patient care and trust your promise of life. Amen.

At home Share your picture and one thing you learned about God or following Jesus.

A sign of life and hope

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Jesus stays near in grief and calls his friend to life. Remember, explain, and respond.

Name _____

1 Remember

Who was raised from the tomb?

Jesus called ...

2 Explain

What do Jesus' tears teach us?

His tears show ...

3 Respond

Write a gentle thing you could say to someone sad.

I could say ...

Pray Jesus, stay near those who grieve. Help us offer patient care and trust your promise of life. Amen.

Go deeper Why can staying beside someone in sorrow be more loving than trying to make it disappear?