SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN · LEADER'S SHEET · THURSDAY JAN 28

John **11** · week 11 of 21

I Am the Resurrection and the Life · Answers and notes for Thursday

READ MONDAY – WEDNESDAY · MEET THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 28

Answers to every worksheet question, with the exact NASB key-word counts. Personal questions are marked "Personal."

THE WEEK

Monday	Read John 11 straight through, then again with a pen and mark it · Mon, Jan 25
Tuesday	Read the study notes; answer the Observe questions and count the key words · Tue, Jan 26
Wednesday	Interpret, Weigh the Teachers, the Word study and Apply · Wed, Jan 27
Thursday evening	Together: watch the John 11 part of the film, go through the worksheet, pray · Thu, Jan 28

KEY VERSE

> **JOHN 11:25–26 · NASB**
>
> *"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"*

The last and greatest sign before the cross. A friend dies while Jesus waits, two sisters say the same hard sentence, Jesus weeps, and a dead man walks out. Then the council decides Jesus must die.

John 11 *I Am the Resurrection and the Life*

KEY VERSE 11:25–26

Theme of the chapter. Jesus loves His friends enough to let them walk through death so that God may be glorified, and He weeps with them in it. He does not only teach the resurrection; He is the resurrection and the life. The sign that gives Lazarus life seals Jesus' own death, which God turns into the gathering of His children.

KEY WORD COUNTS (NASB)

Lazarus	**6**	vv. 1, 2, 5, 11, 14, 43
died / dead / die	**9**	vv. 14, 16, 21, 26, 32, 39, 44, 50, 51
believe / believes / believed	**9**	vv. 15, 25, 26 (×2), 27, 40, 42, 45, 48
love / loved	**3**	vv. 3, 5, 36
tomb	**3**	vv. 17, 31, 38
Mary	**8**	vv. 1, 2, 19, 20, 28, 31, 32, 45

JOHN 11:1–16 The Delay

1 OBSERVE *What message do the sisters send (11:3)? What does Jesus say about the sickness (11:4)?*

> "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick" (11:3). "This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it" (11:4).

2 OBSERVE *Read 11:5–6 together. What does Jesus do because He loves them?*

> "Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that he was sick, He then stayed two days longer in the place where He was" (11:5–6).

3 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Sproul: "Jesus lets enough time pass to make it absolutely certain." Spurgeon: "Faith untried may be true faith, but it is sure to be little faith." Henry: "man's extremity is God's opportunity." How can a delay be love?*

> By the fourth day no one could doubt the death or the miracle. The waiting grew faith that could not grow otherwise. None of them says the delay cost the sisters nothing; all say it was love.

4 APPLY *Where is God waiting in your life right now, and how does 11:5–6 change the way you read that wait?*

> Personal. The study's truth: love sometimes waits.

JOHN 11:17–27 Martha

5 OBSERVE *How long had Lazarus been in the tomb, and what does Martha say first (11:17, 21)?*

> Four days. "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died" (11:21).

6 OBSERVE *Martha believes her brother "will rise again in the resurrection on the last day" (11:24). How does Jesus answer (11:25–26)?*

> "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" (11:25–26).

7 INTERPRET *Spurgeon says Martha "set the promise in the remote distance." What does Jesus change by saying "I am" instead of "there will be"?*

> He does not deny the last day, but He brings it into the present: the resurrection is a Person standing in front of her. Spurgeon: "'I am,' not 'I can get the Resurrection.'"

8 APPLY *Jesus asks Martha, "Do you believe this?" Answer His question for yourself.*

> Personal. Martha's own answer is in 11:27.

JOHN 11:28–37 Mary and the Tears

9 OBSERVE *What did Jesus feel when He saw Mary and the Jews weeping (11:33), and what did He do (11:35)?*

> "He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled" (11:33). "Jesus wept" (11:35).

10 INTERPRET *The word for "deeply moved" is the language of indignation. At whom or what was Jesus angry?*

> Guzik and Sproul read it as anger at death itself, the enemy He would defeat at the cross, not at the mourners. Spurgeon hears indignation, grief and sorrow over unbelief coming out as tears.

11 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Why would Jesus weep if He knew He was about to raise Lazarus? Spurgeon: "I like not lightning without rain, nor indignation without tears."*

> Compassion is not only for problems you cannot fix. He wept with them before He acted. Hebrews 4:15 describes a high priest who sympathizes.

JOHN 11:38–44 The Tomb

12 OBSERVE *What does Jesus command, what does Martha object, and how does Jesus answer (11:39–40)?*

> "Remove the stone." Martha: "Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days." Jesus: "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" (11:40).

13 OBSERVE *Why did Jesus pray out loud (11:41–42)?*

> "I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me" (11:42). Henry: "prayer may preach."

14 OBSERVE *What did Jesus cry, what happened, and what did He tell the people to do (11:43–44)?*

> "Lazarus, come forth." The man who had died came out, bound hand and foot with wrappings. "Unbind him, and let him go" (11:44).

15 APPLY *Jesus raised Lazarus but told others to remove the stone and unbind him. What stone or grave clothes can you help remove for a brother?*

> Personal. Jesus gives life; He lets us help with the stone and the wrappings.

JOHN 11:45–57 The Verdict

16 OBSERVE *What did the council fear would happen if they let Jesus go on (11:48)?*

> "All men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation" (11:48).

17 INTERPRET *Caiaphas said, "it is expedient for you that one man die for the people" (11:50). How does John say God used his words (11:51–52)?*

> John calls it prophecy: Jesus would die for the nation, "and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad" (11:52). Guzik: "Caiaphas thought logically but not morally."

18 APPLY *The council chose what was useful over what was true. Where are you tempted to choose what is expedient over what is right?*

> Personal. The study's confession: expedience.

WORD STUDY

19 WORD *dakryō (G1145), to shed quiet tears. John uses this word only in 11:35. The mourners' weeping (klaiō) is loud wailing. What does Jesus' quiet weeping tell you?*

> His grief was real and personal, not a show. He enters our sorrow before He ends it.

20 WORD *anastasis (G386), resurrection, a standing up again. Lazarus came out still bound and would die again. Jesus left His face-cloth "rolled up in a place by itself" (20:7). What is the difference between Lazarus' return and Jesus' resurrection?*

> Guzik: "Lazarus was not resurrected, but resuscitated." Jesus rose never to die again, and Lazarus is a preview of 5:28.

ACTS 17:11 The Chosen check

> ACTS 17:11 · NASB
> *"...examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."*

WATCH THIS WEEK

Season 4, Episode 7, "The Last Sign" (11:17–44); 11:1–16 at the end of Season 4, Episode 6

Answers and notes for the Chosen check. Let the group find the differences in the text before you give them.

C1 OBSERVE

What does the episode add to the raising of Lazarus that John does not record?

> A private conversation between Jesus and Lazarus, and a flash-forward of Matthew visiting Mary Magdalene in Gaul. Neither is in Scripture.

C2 OBSERVE

Read 11:25–27 and 11:35. Does the episode keep them? Why do these lines matter more than anything the show adds?

> Yes. "I am the resurrection and the life" is Jesus' own claim, and Martha's confession answers it; the additions are imagination, these are revelation.

C3 INTERPRET

What did the episode add that John 11 does not say? Does the addition help you see the text, or does it change what the text means?

> Additions are not automatically wrong; they are not Scripture. The test is whether an addition changes what the text says about Jesus.

C4 APPLY

The Bereans received the word eagerly and examined the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11). Where are you most tempted to let a picture, a sermon or a feeling stand in for the text?

> Personal. Press for one concrete habit: reading the chapter before watching, and checking every scene against it.

The Chosen is a drama, not Scripture. God's Word is the truth; where the film differs, the Word wins.