

Leaders Guide 1

LAZERUS

1. **Suggested Ice breaker:** Share a favorite childhood memory.

2. **Prayer time:**

A Prelude to Prayer "Prayer is the way we get in touch with God and the way we keep in touch with Him I used to think of prayer as a spiritual exercise, a discipline that had to be worked at. Through the years, however, God has taught me to see it more and more as the talking part of a friendship. One of the early church fathers called it "keeping company with God." I like that! Love to Pray, Alvin Vandergriend, 10.

3. **Sharing from the week**

4. **Read John 11: 1-44**

5. **Questions for Discussion**

- a. In verse 2 of this chapter and in Matthew 26: 7 it refers to Mary anointing Jesus' feet. Why did Jesus say in Matthew 26: 12 "wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will be told as a memorial to her."?

- b. In John 11:5, 6 it says that Jesus loved this family so when He heard Lazarus was sick He stayed where he was two more days. How can we harmonize that Jesus loved them with His delay? Do you find this helpful or troubling as you think of God's responses to your requests? Explain _____
- c. In verse 32 when Mary saw Jesus, she told Him if He had been there her brother would not have died. Do you think this was a statement of rebuke, disappointment or faith? Explain _____.
- d. John 11:32 is the shortest verse in the Bible: "Jesus wept." How does that affect your experience with God today? _____
- e. If you had been a part of the crowd that day at Lazarus' tomb would you have been at the front, middle or back? explain. _____
- f. Why do you think the resurrection of Jesus is considered an anchor point of the Christian faith? _____
- g. Was Martha right or wrong in verse 24 to express her hope for her brother's resumption of life to be at the resurrection at Christ's second coming? _____
- h. In verse 44 Jesus asked the family and perhaps others to take off the graveclothes. Why do you think that may have been important? _____
- i. How has the story helped your faith in Christ?