



Lesson Twelve

Jesus Brings Lazarus Back to Life

Heart Preparation & Bible Background

First, Jesus calmly waited for Lazarus to die. Even though Mary and Martha, his beloved friends, had sent for him to come and heal their sick brother, Jesus was in no hurry to go to his bedside. God had a plan for the sickness and death of Lazarus and he had revealed it to his Son, the Lord Jesus. People would see the raising of Lazarus from the dead, and they would either believe in the One who is himself the Resurrection and the Life, or they would reject him and the salvation he offered.

Unknown to the grieving and bewildered sisters, Jesus had delayed his arrival so that a miracle even greater than a healing could display his glory as the Lord of life. Jesus had raised the dead before. But the widow's son had not yet been buried when Jesus restored him to life, and Jairus' daughter had been dead only a short while. With the raising of Lazarus, however, Jesus demonstrated his power to reach past the corruption of the grave, bringing life once more.

"Take away the stone," Jesus said. And, even then, those closest to him who wanted to believe, protested in disbelief. Wasn't the body just too *dead*, too decomposed, at this point for Jesus to do anything?

But Jesus was following the Father's plan and was about to show the power of his amazing grace. He would raise Lazarus so that people would believe that God had sent him.

When Jesus gave the command, Lazarus stepped out of the grave, freed from death. Jesus ordered the people to take off his binding grave clothes. In that moment of giving life, Jesus revealed that he is the One who confronts, destroys and reigns over death.

At that point, many who saw what Jesus did put their faith in him. Like Martha, they could joyfully proclaim: "You are the Christ, the Son of God."

May you, too, rejoice in the truth that whoever believes in the Savior will *live*. What glad, comforting news!



Bible Truth

Jesus showed the glory and power of God when he brought Lazarus back to life.

Scripture

John 11:1-44



Lesson Focus

Just as he promised, Jesus gives his people life that lasts forever.

Goals for the Children

- Understand that Jesus brought Lazarus back to life to show people he is God.
- Understand that Jesus did miracles so that people would trust him as God, their Savior.
- Thank God for giving his children life that lasts forever.



Memory Minute

I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God.
John 11:27