SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

GROUP WORKSHEET · OBSERVE · INTERPRET · APPLY

John 11

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

NAME _____ DATE _____

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.

BEFORE YOU ANSWER

1. Read John 11 straight through, then a second time slowly with a pen.
2. Mark what you see: God · commands · repeated words · sin / warnings · promises · time / place.
3. Answer from the text first. Write the verse number beside every answer.

COUNT THE KEY WORDS

Find each word in John 11. Tally it and note the verses. What does John keep coming back to?

WORD	HOW MANY?	VERSES
Lazarus		
died / dead / die		
believe / believes / believed		
love / loved		
tomb		
Mary		

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)?

2 OBSERVE

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

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?

4 APPLY

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

JOHN 11:17–27 Martha

5 OBSERVE

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

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"?

8 APPLY

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

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)?

10 INTERPRET

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

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."

JOHN 11:38–44 The Tomb

12 OBSERVE

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

13 OBSERVE

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

14 OBSERVE

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

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?

JOHN 11:45–57 The Verdict

16 OBSERVE

What did the council fear would happen if they let Jesus go on (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)?

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?

WORD STUDY The Greek behind the English

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?

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?

PUT IT TOGETHER The chapter as a whole

The theme. In one or two sentences of your own, what is John 11 about?

Jesus. What does this chapter show you about who Jesus is that you want to remember?

This week. What one thing will you do because of this chapter, and which brother will you tell?

Around the table. Prayer requests and what the other men saw that you missed.