

# *The Signs in John's Gospel*

## **Week 7: Jesus raises Lazarus from death**

### **WELCOME**

*Spend time relaxing and sharing together.*

### **WORSHIP**

Read Psalm 22.1-11

It forms the background to Jesus' cry on the cross, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' Psalm 22 lays out the out a prophetic background to the cross and resurrection, which was fulfilled in Jesus.

Perhaps if we are at low point, it helps us to remember that suffering does not have to have the last word. In Jesus, the resurrection and the victory of God have the last word. We can keep in trusting in him.

Spend some time praising God for what he has done for us on the cross.

### **WORD**

Read John 11.1-37

1. Given the close relationship between Jesus and Lazarus' family, why do you think Jesus delayed going to see on hearing the news that Lazarus was sick (vv1-7)?



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5. What does Jesus's reply mean (vv25-26) for Martha and all those who believe in Jesus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Jesus wept (v35) in response to seeing Mary weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping (v33). What does that tell us about Jesus?

Read John 11.38-44

7. What are the similarities and differences between the rising of Lazarus and Jesus' resurrection?

# **Growth Group Notes**

## **Spring 2021**



Read John 11.45-53

8. What is biggest fear of the chief priests and the Pharisees when they hear about the miracle of Jesus raising Lazarus from death? (v48)

## **WHAT NEXT?**

### ***For personal or group reflection***

We have just had a National Day of reflection (23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021) to mark the first anniversary of the UK lockdown, to commemorate this tragic loss of life and to stand together with everyone who's grieving. The Christ Church bells were rung after the one-minute silence at noon. Many people stopped at 8pm and came outside for a 'share the light' moment.

Share your own reflections on the last year and then pray together.

You could conclude with this prayer:

God of Love, as we think about all that has changed this year,  
help us to trust that you are always with us.

As we remember those who have died,  
help us to trust they are at peace with you.

As we reach out to others with kindness and care,  
may hope shine out in every heart and home. Amen