

Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of Dec 21-22, 2024

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

The Arrival of Love

(John 11:1-44)

Nate Davis, Pastor of Outreach

Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud together John 11:1-44.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create a curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Pastor Nate's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

If Christmas is a season that often (or at times) brings up pain for you, share a bit about this experience.

In John 11, we are witness to the emotional ride of Mary and Martha (and Jesus).

Within this story, Pastor Nate highlights the journey of Mary and Martha longing for Jesus to show up to witnessing Jesus stepping in and culminating in Jesus calling out.

When have you experienced a season where you desperately needed/longed for Jesus to show up? (vs. John 11:21, 32)

If you felt like he was absent or at the very least was taking too long to show up, share this experience.

If your faith stayed strong while you waited, what kept you encouraged?

If you are experiencing a current season of waiting, share how you are managing this reality.

While it was painful for Mary and Martha to wait, Jesus was faithful and did show up. (John 17)

When have you experienced Jesus arriving and stepping into a difficult situation or season?

What did it look like to experience his arrival?

It is apparent that even while Mary and Martha waited, they were filled with faith in Jesus (and the power of his love). (vs. 22, 27, 32)

How fully can you relate to the type of faith Mary and Martha shared?

Once Jesus arrived, his love did what only his love can.

First, we see the power of his presence and his empathy. (vs. 33, 35)

What does it mean to you to see Jesus' emotional response upon encountering Mary and Martha in their mourning.

Jesus exhibited his divine power in raising Lazarus from the dead. (vs. 44)

What encouragement do you draw from this event?

When have you experienced the power of Jesus showing up into a challenging situation or season?

If a pain you are currently experiencing has no end in sight, how might these events provide hope for you?

After meditating on this passage, what have you learned (or been reminded of) about God's love for you? What does this story highlight about His heart for you?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend's message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

Messages are available in audio or video on our App or at cccgreeley.org.