

Journey with Jesus

Praying through the Gospel of John

Week 13



- Find a place to sit quietly.
- Sit in a relaxed position and close your eyes.
- Breathe normally and become aware of the presence of God.
- Jesus says to Mary and Martha ‘I am the resurrection and the life.’
- How do you respond to this statement of Jesus?
- Talk with God about these words and your reaction to them.
- You might like to listen Rob Gardner’s I am the resurrection and the life.
- You might like to listen to Rebecca Young’s song What is he to you? or to Misha Goetz sing Kedushah.



➤ You might like to listen to:

- Day 1: Said Judas to Mary sung by Misha Goetz then click [here](#).
- Day 2: My sheep know my voice sung by The Symphonials then click [here](#).
- Day 3: Psalms 13 sung by Brian Doerksen then click [here](#).
- Day 4: Jesus man of sorrows sung by Brian Doerksen then click [here](#).
- Day 5: Love crucified arose sung by Michael Card then click [here](#).
- Day 6: The servant king sung by Graham Kendrick then click [here](#).
- Day 7: Cry of the broken sung by Hillsong then click [here](#).



Day 1: John 11:17-22

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

- Read this passage from John 11.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
- How has the Spirit been at work in your heart as you have prayed?
- You might like to note these down in your journal.
- When you have finished click [here](#) to continue.



Day 2: John 11:23-27

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

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Day 3: John 11:28-32

After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

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Day 4: John 11:33-37

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. “Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

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Day 5: John 11:38-44

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.” Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”



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Day 6: John 11:45-50

Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin. “What are we accomplishing?” they asked. “Here is this man performing many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our nation.” Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, “You know nothing at all! You do not realise that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish.”

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Day 7: John 11:51-57

He did not say this on his own, but as high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the Jewish nation, and not only for that nation but also for the scattered children of God, to bring them together and make them one. So from that day on they plotted to take his life. Therefore Jesus no longer moved about publicly among the people of Judea. Instead he withdrew to a region near the wilderness, to a village called Ephraim, where he stayed with his disciples. When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, many went up from the country to Jerusalem for their ceremonial cleansing before the Passover. They kept looking for Jesus, and as they stood in the temple courts they asked one another, "What do you think? Isn't he coming to the festival at all?" But the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who found out where Jesus was should report it so that they might arrest him.



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Over the week you might like to listen to these tracks from Lazarus Requiem composed by Patrick Hawes:

- Day 1: Tableau four
- Day 2: Sanctus
- Day 3: Benedictus
- Day 4: Tableau five
- Day 5: Lux Aeterna
- Day 6: Agnus Dei
- Day 7: Tableau six

A link to the whole album can be found [here](#).



Creative prayer

For this creative prayer you might like to take your gathered sticks from last week which have been tied together as a reminder of Lazarus' body being prepared and laid in the tomb.

Read again the words from day 5:

When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

As you read this remove the ties from the small bundle of sticks - being aware as you do of your new life in Jesus and the grave clothes that were removed for you.

Ask God what part he wants you to play in helping to remove the grave clothes from others who are breathing in new life.



I am the resurrection and the life

How can you be the final resurrection?
That resurrection hasn't happened yet.
Our broken world is still bent on destruction,
No sun can rise before that sun has set.
Our faith looks back to father Abraham
And toward to the one who is to come
How can you speak as though he knew your name?
How can you say: **before he was I am?**

**Begin in me and I will read your riddle
And teach you truths my Spirit will defend
I am the End who meets you in the middle,
The new Beginning hidden in the End.
I am the victory, the end of strife
I am the resurrection and the life.**

Malcolm Guite - used with the poet's permission

Click on the title of this sonnet to listen to the author read these words.



Textile art by Jane Allan. Used with permission.

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This prayer station and other resources can be found at [The Prayer Room](#)

