



Connect Group study

John 11

John 11 is a chapter crammed full of powerful truth. In this study we pick up on just one aspect of the story – how Jesus reacted to a crisis in His personal life. We'll examine how Jesus responded to difficult circumstances and what we can learn from His example.

Read John 11:1-44

Reflect

Q1. How do you normally react to crises? What coping mechanisms do you tend to resort to? Share as honestly as you can.

Q2. In verse 3, Jesus is presented with a 'crisis' – a close friend was seriously sick. How do you think you would have responded in that situation, and how does Jesus respond? (v4-6)

Q3. Under the circumstances, the logical thing for Jesus to do would have been to immediately go to Bethany. Instead He waits two days longer before leaving.

- a. Has God ever called you to do something which seemed to contradict what circumstances were telling you to do?
- b. What are the dangers of being purely led by our circumstances do you think?

Q4. According to verse 4, what is the outcome when we follow God rather than following what circumstances seem to dictate? How was God glorified more through Jesus' actions than He could have been had Jesus done the 'obvious' thing?

Respond

Q5. Think about your own life. Are there any circumstances that you tend to 'react' to rather than prayerfully listening to what God is saying? Give some examples.

Q6. What adjustments do you think we can make in our lives so that we can be less 'reactive' and more prayerful about how we respond to circumstances?

Key verse(s)

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." (Isaiah 30:21 NIV)