

OUR PART IN THE STORY:

Daily devotions on Sunday's Narrative Lectionary text

Jesus Raises Lazarus

John 11:1-44

SHARE your highs and lows for the day.

READ Sunday's entire text each day to learn the story deeply. This reading begins the season of Lent with a foretaste of Easter. The subject of death is tender, but can be broached, even with small children, especially in the light of the Resurrection and the promise of eternal life.

- ❖ Visit a cemetery and do rubbings of some interesting grave stones. (See <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Gravestone-Rubbing> for pointers.) Have an age-appropriate discussion of physical death.
- ❖ Listen to "Lazarus" by Wes King. How is Lazarus in you?

TALK about what you just read, and relate it to your highs and lows. The questions and prompts below are intended to spark discussion and action. Use one each day or several at one sitting.

- ❖ Why do you think Jesus waited before returning to heal Lazarus?
- ❖ Why did Jesus say, "This illness does not lead to death", even though he knew, before he arrived, that Lazarus had died?
- ❖ How would you have felt if Jesus hadn't arrived in time, and it was your loved one who had died?
- ❖ What do you think Jesus was feeling when he wept?
- ❖ "I am the resurrection" is another "I Am" statement found in the Gospel of John. What other "I Am" statements can you recall?

PRAY for your family and friends, for peace and forgiveness, for your highs and lows, and for new life in Christ.

BLESS each other by making the sign of the cross on each other's forehead and saying, "God gives you new life. Now rise!"

OUR PART IN THE STORY:

Daily readings based on Sunday's Narrative Lectionary text

Jesus Raises Lazarus

John 11:1-44

Read a different text each day, and consider how it relates to Sunday's lesson and to your daily experiences.

MONDAY: The Plot to Kill Jesus

John 11:45-57

- ❖ What do you think of Caiaphas' argument that it would be better for one man to die for the people than the nation be destroyed??

TUESDAY: Mary Anoints Jesus

John 12:1-8

- ❖ How would you have shown your devotion to Jesus- by serving, sitting at the table, anointing him, or in some other way?

WEDNESDAY: The Plot to Kill Lazarus

John 12:9-11

- ❖ Do you think Lazarus was afraid to be put to death, having already died once?

THURSDAY: Jesus' Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem

John 12:12-19

- ❖ What would this grand celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem look like today? A parade? A riot?

FRIDAY: Jesus Speaks About His Death

John 12:20-36

- ❖ What do you think was troubling Jesus' soul (in vs.27)?

SATURDAY: Summary of Jesus' Teaching

John 12:37-50

- ❖ How has Jesus brought light into your darkness?