

WORKOUT

JOHN 11:1-53

Believe
and
LIVE
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Read John 11:1-53.

We see throughout Scripture that God acts for His glory, for the sake of His name. Consider how this is revealed in John 9:3, 11:4, 11:15, and 11:43.

- How does this reality inform the way we think about our own circumstances (Philippians 3:3-10 and 4:12)? How should this reality lead us to trust (Isaiah 55:8-9)? How might a self-centered response to our circumstances reveal our unbelief (Psalm 115:1-8 and Philippians 2:1-11)?

Consider the Lord's authority. He is Yahweh. He is before Abraham was (John 8:58); therefore, He has authority over life and death. Jesus spoke, "Lazarus, come out," and Lazarus came out (John 11:43-44).

- How does Jesus's authority help us understand His proclamation: "I am the resurrection and the life"?
- Consider Jesus as the resurrection and the life along with His teaching in John 10:18- He has authority to lay down His life and to take it back up again. How does this inform how we think about our own lives as Jesus followers?

Pray Holistically

Read John 11:48. Why were the Pharisees afraid that "everyone will believe in Jesus"? Why didn't they believe that this would be good? Pray that as Jesus followers, we would not fear the hatred of the world (John 15:18) or the loss of earthly circumstances (Philippians 3:8), but would see Jesus as supremely and ultimately worthy.

- Father, you are the source and author of all life, and apart from you there is nothing but death. Help us not to cling to the fleeting promises or pleasures of this world. Help us not to crave glory that comes from other people. Help us not to value our own status or reputation, but strengthen our resolve to endure hatred from the world because we know that Jesus was first hated by the world. Help us to stand firm on truth, not wavering or compromising, but boldly proclaiming that you are the resurrection and the life.

Pray Personally

Read and pray John 11:25-27.

- Father, you have sent your Son, Jesus, and He is the resurrection and the life. I know that whoever believes in Him, even when our earthly lives come to an end, we will live because we have life in you. Earthly death is not the end for the Jesus follower, because you give eternal life to all those who believe. Help me to trust in you beyond my earthly circumstances, even beyond things that may threaten my life. Those who live and believe in you shall never die; I believe this.

Jesus is the resurrection and the life, and whoever lives and believes in Him shall never die.

Consider this truth's implications for how we navigate pain, sadness, grief, suffering, and loss. Purpose to set your hope on our spiritual life in Christ beyond any earthly circumstances.

- After her brother has died, Martha confesses Jesus' power, authority, and relationship with the Father (11:21-22). What difficult earthly circumstances do you face?
 - Every time you think about these situations, confess God's authority and sovereignty over every thing that happens and over every thing that He withholds.
- After her brother has died, Jesus says that anyone who believes in Him, though they die physically, they shall live eternally. Ask yourself the question that Jesus asks Martha (11:26). Do you believe this?
 - Pray, asking the Lord to deepen your trust in and submission to this reality.
- Read Jesus's reaction to Lazarus's death in verses 4 and 33-35, alongside Hebrews 4:15-16 and Isaiah 53:3. Take comfort that our Savior knew grief, sympathizes with our weaknesses, and acts so that we may see and believe the glory of God.
- Read Revelation 21:1-5. Your fulfillment and satisfaction will not ultimately come from a change in circumstances, but from all things being made new. Every tear, all pain, all death will pass away. God Himself will dwell with us as our God.

PONDER

PRAY

PRACTICE