

Part 59: Lazarus

Begin with a prayer of gratitude for God's concern and care for each one of us on our journey. Share from your week.

Death of preconceptions and ideas

We bring much of the bondage and misery in our lives upon ourselves by our attitudes and habits. Jesus frequently used jarring situations to shake his hearers into awareness of their prejudice. At times he allowed people to struggle through trying situations in order to develop their understanding in some deeper way.

One such occasion is the experience of Lazarus where he becomes very ill and Jesus, instead of coming to his help as soon as he can, intentionally delays until Lazarus has died and is buried before he comes. 'It is for God's glory,' says Jesus, and through this death and resurrection of Lazarus gives an experience of God's love and power.

Read John 11:1–44 and meditate on any particular aspect that stands out for you.

- Are there any places in yourself where you feel dead or bound up like Lazarus in the tomb?
- What is holding you there in the pain and paralysis?
- What is Jesus calling you out to? (20 minutes)

Journal and share as appropriate.

At home

Reflect on the different feelings you experienced in this meditation. Be sensitive to any heaviness or pain that might have occurred and notice your instinctive reaction to it.

What do you think of it and what do you think you can do about it?

What would God have you do with it?

The next part will be the last in this series. It may be a good idea to each to bring some treats to share over tea.

Plan the time together and prepare to bring whatever you will need for it.



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