

ABOUT HOME GROUPS

We consider small groups essential to being connected in God's community. (We have opportunities for you in all groups including Rooted groups.) Home Groups meet throughout the area and the week. They are a group of people being intentional about doing life and mission together. For more information, see our website or our app. (www.trinityonline.org).

WHAT'S TRUE FOR YOU?

This week's story is one of the most powerful in Jesus' lifetime. It addresses some absolutely 'must know' truths about Jesus. It also repeatedly asks and answers questions about God's involvement or presence. Three times, a form of this statement is made: "Lord, if you had been here . . ."

Throughout our lives, we face many 'If only God . . .' questions.

What is true for you? When have you wished, wondered or prayed an 'If only' question about God's work in your life?

LET'S LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD

Prior to this week's passage, people were ready to kill Jesus, even though He was doing amazing works. Jesus asked them why they wanted to kill Him. Their answer: "You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God." (John 10:33)

Read John 11:1-46 and consider these questions:

What kind of a relationship did Jesus have with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus?

Why did he delay going to Lazarus?

What was the concern of the disciples?

How did Jesus address their concern?

What was Thomas' response?

How would you describe Martha's encounter with Jesus? (17-27) What was Martha's opening question and statement? What was Jesus' response to her?

What did Martha believe? (11:27) How does this compare with Jesus' statements in 10:25, 37-38?

How was Mary's encounter with Jesus different from Martha's? (28-35) What was her question? How was Jesus' response to Mary different from His response to Martha? Why might that be so?

What did the other "Jews" notice? (36-37) What was their question?

What do notice about Jesus at the tomb? (38-44) What was Martha's concern? What is Jesus' response to Martha?

What were the different responses of "the Jews" to this miracle? (45-46)

What did Jesus say was the purpose of all this? (see vs. 4, 14, 25-26, 40, 42)

DISCUSS TOGETHER

What makes this story one of the most significant in Jesus' life on earth? Why is it significant that it happens with Lazarus, Martha, and Mary?

What 'If only' questions does this story address? How does it have impact on the questions that we feel or ask in today's world?

How might this affect our faith if we were present for this miracle? What affect did Jesus' seek?

How can we team-up to live as resurrection people today? How does being in community help us live this life?

LET'S PRAY

- Please pray for your Global Partners, many of whom are in difficult places
- Please pray for our Micah House teams and the families they serve
- Please pray for people who are perhaps struggling with 'If only' questions