SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

John

Chapter 11

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

MEMORY VERSE · JOHN 11:25-26

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?""

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in John 11

John 11 is about a friend Jesus loved, a delay that hurt, tears at a grave, and a voice that empties tombs. This week, bring Him your own grief and your own dead places. He is not late, He is not unmoved, and He still says, “I am the resurrection and the life.”

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the John study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

Love That Waits

READ · JOHN 11:1–16

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What message did the sisters send (v. 3)? What did Jesus do right after John says He loved them (vv. 5–6)?

REFLECT

“So … He then stayed two days longer” (v. 6). Where has God’s timing felt like neglect to you, and how does verse 5 change that?

REFLECT

Thomas said, “Let us also go, so that we may die with Him” (v. 16). Where is Jesus asking you to follow Him into something hard, and what holds you back?

RESPOND — TODAY

Send Jesus a message the way the sisters did: “Lord, behold, he whom You love is …” Name the need; leave the timing with Him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 11:25–26)

DAY 2 OF 5

I Am the Resurrection

READ · JOHN 11:17–27

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How long had Lazarus been in the tomb (v. 17)? What did Martha believe about the resurrection (v. 24), and what did Jesus say about Himself (vv. 25–26)?

REFLECT

Martha said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died" (v. 21). What "if only" have you carried to God, and are you willing to say it to Him honestly the way she did?

REFLECT

Martha put the resurrection far off "on the last day" (v. 24); Jesus said, "I am the resurrection" (v. 25). Where do you keep His promises at a distance instead of trusting Him with today?

RESPOND — TODAY

Answer Jesus' question out loud in your own words: "Do you believe this?" (v. 26). Then write down Martha's confession from verse 27 and pray it back to Him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 11:25–26)

DAY 3 OF 5

Jesus Wept

READ · JOHN 11:28–37

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Mary do when she saw Jesus (v. 32)? What two things does verse 33 say happened inside Jesus, and what does verse 35 say He did?

REFLECT

Jesus wept even though He knew He was about to raise Lazarus (v. 35). What grief are you carrying that you have never let Jesus see — and what does it mean to you that He weeps with you?

REFLECT

The crowd said two things: "See how He loved him!" and "Could not this man … have kept this man also from dying?" (vv. 36–37). Which of those voices is louder in you right now, and why?

RESPOND — TODAY

Think of one man who is grieving. Reach out to him today — not to fix anything, just to be with him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 11:25-26)

DAY 4 OF 5

Lazarus, Come Forth

READ · JOHN 11:38–44

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Jesus tell them to do before He called Lazarus (v. 39)? What was Lazarus still wearing when he came out, and what did Jesus tell the people to do (v. 44)?

REFLECT

Martha balked at the stone because of the stench (v. 39). What "stone" are you afraid to let Jesus move because of what is behind it — something long dead you would rather keep shut?

REFLECT

Lazarus was alive but still "bound hand and foot with wrappings" (v. 44). What grave-clothes — habits, shame, fear, old ways of talking — are you still wearing even though Christ has given you life?

RESPOND — TODAY

Tell one trusted brother about one grave-cloth you are still wearing, and ask him to help you get loose. Or ask God to show you a man you can help unbind.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 11:25–26)

DAY 5 OF 5

One Man for the People

READ · JOHN 11:45–57

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What were the two responses to the miracle (vv. 45–46)? What was the council afraid of (v. 48), and what did Caiaphas say was “expedient” (v. 50)?

REFLECT

Caiaphas chose what was convenient over what was right — one man for the sake of the rest (v. 50). Where are you tempted to give up the truth, or a person, to protect your own place?

REFLECT

John says Jesus died “not for the nation only” but to “gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad” (v. 52). What does it mean to you that He died to gather you in?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank Jesus by name that He was the “one man” who died for you. Then make one choice today based on what is right, not on what is easiest.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 11:25–26)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Both sisters said the exact same words: "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died" (vv. 21, 32). Jesus answered Martha with teaching and Mary with tears. What does that tell you about how He meets different people in grief?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Jesus prayed out loud "because of the people standing around … so that they may believe" (v. 42). How could your prayers in front of others point them to Jesus this week?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

The same miracle made some believe and others plot (vv. 45–53). Why do you think seeing God work does not always change a heart — and what has softened yours?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You are the resurrection and the life, and You wept at my graves too, so today I bring You…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · JOHN 11:25–26

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?""