



**Warm it up**

1) Share a story about a time where you were stuck WAITING for something, someone, etc... and found yourself incredibly frustrated.

2) Share about a time when you were waiting specifically for God to do something, and He answered or acted according to HIS timetable. How did it turn out?

**Talk it Over**

**Read John 11:1-44.**

1. What is your first response to the statement, "No matter how long we wait, God is never late?"
2. John wants the readers of this story to know that Jesus CARES. What are some examples of this? (Find them from the text. 😊)
3. John also wants us to know that God is IN CONTROL. What are some examples of this? (Find them from the text. 😊)



4. What does Jesus give as the reason (in v4) for Lazarus's sickness unto death? Does this frame any of your current or past troubles/trials in a different light? How so?

**Work it Through**

1. In v25, Jesus proclaims something very powerful in His "I am" statement: "I am the resurrection and the life."
  - A. Have you ever had to completely trust in God's power to do something? What was it?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - B. Answer the question Jesus asks in v26: "Do you believe this?" Why is a person's answer to this particular question so important?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In this story, Jesus shows an amazing sense of (and control over) timing.
  - A. Has your trust/belief in God's perfect timing ever been tested? Explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - B. In v21, 32 and 37...comments are made that Jesus – if His timing was different or better – could have kept Lazarus from dying. Have you ever tried to "control" God by dictating (directly or indirectly) His timing? Share an example. (More than likely, we have many examples...just pick one. ☺)



3. This story clearly illustrates that God has a plan. Jesus' plan in this story was very different than the plans of other people in this story. Have you plans ever been RADICALLY different than God's for a specific situation? If so, share about it...and how it turned out.
  
4. How is God glorified in our waiting and trusting. (**Read Psalm 13** for inspiration. 😊)
  
5. How and why does our faith grow stronger through waiting for God and trusting Him? How might that have shaped your past...and how might it shape your future?
  
6. What is your biggest "takeaway" from this week's passage or sermon?
  
7. What is your personal favorite detail of this powerful story of resurrection and life?

**Pray it Through**

Pray for one another!

