

Fathom Church exists to see people GO DEEPER with God. This study guide should be used the week preceding the sermon it supplements. It is primarily intended to be used in a Fathom Church Discipleship Group. For more information about Fathom Discipleship Groups please visit <http://fathomchurch.org/groups/>

**MAIN TEXT:** John 11:1-57

**OBSERVATION:** *What is this text saying?*

1. In verses 11-16 the disciples seemed confused and scared about the condition of Lazarus and the prospect of visiting them. Jesus knows that Lazarus has died and knows that his death is an opportunity for the disciples to see and understand God's glory but the disciples are afraid they will die if they go through or near Jerusalem. What are the disciples focused on and what is Jesus focused on?
2. Verses 45-57 speak of the plot to kill Jesus. Jesus knew his time was approaching and his ministry continued to divide people. What does the raising of Lazarus symbolize to us and what did it mean to the Pharisees of the day?

**INTERPRETATION:** *What does this text mean?*

1. In verse 4 Jesus says, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Lazarus does die so was Jesus confused or what was his understanding?
2. Every child's favorite memory verse is John 11:35, "Jesus Wept". Why is Jesus weeping? Jesus knew Lazarus was dead and he knows he is there to raise him so what brings Jesus to tears?
3. Verses 45-57 speak of the plot to kill Jesus. Jesus knew his time was approaching and his ministry continued to divide people. What does the raising of Lazarus symbolize to us and what did it mean to the Pharisees of the day?

**APPLICATION:** *How should we now live?*

1. This text can be a great devotional exercise for us as believers both old believers and new believers. Jesus raises someone from the dead. He has shown his power over the death. This is a miracle. We read this story, but do we believe that Jesus does these things in our life still? Does he really heal the sick? Can he actually free me from my recurring sin? Can he really restore broken relationships? Save someone to His kingdom that doesn't know him currently? Often, we don't pray these prayers because we truly don't believe God will do anything with them. In your time of study, grab a piece of paper, or spend some time in silence and spend some time praying to God, or writing prayer requests that seem too big to even pray. Then reread verses 38-44 and trust God with these prayers. Pray your prayers, both big and small, and pray as if God will actually answer them! He has the power to destroy death! Imagine what he could do if you actually prayed your requests in hope and faith that he'd answer. Take your requests to God in your devotional time this week. See what the Lord does!

