

# Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: BELIEVE

Message: The Resurrection and the Life

Speaker: Andrew Boone

Date: 09/28/2025

## **Memory Verse:** John 13:34-35 NIV

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

*The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.*

**Big Idea:** Because Jesus is the resurrection and the life, our suffering and even our death cannot separate us from His love.

## **Read John 11:1-54**

1. After Jesus receives news about Lazarus He chooses to wait, saying that the sickness is for God and the Son to be glorified (v 4). How were God and Jesus glorified through this event? How have you seen God glorified through hard or difficult circumstances in your life or the life of others?
2. The disciples express fear for their life if they return to the area of Bethany, but Thomas chooses boldness (vv 8, 16). When have you sensed God leading you toward something that felt risky or uncertain? What helps you move from fear or doubt to courageous obedience?
3. Both Mary and Martha tell Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died" (vv 21, 32). Do you think they were blaming Jesus, affirming His divinity or both? Have you ever blamed God for something that did not turn out as you hoped? How can we help others process frustrations they may have with God?



HOSPITALITY



MOVEMENT



CONTRIBUTE



COMMITMENT



ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES



SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

4. Jesus declares that He is the resurrection and the life (vv 25–26). How does the resurrection of Lazarus serve as a powerful picture of what God will do for all who believe in Jesus? When you face grief or loss, how does the hope of eternity with Jesus give you strength?
5. Jesus weeps alongside those who are grieving (v 35). How does it impact you to know Jesus grieves with us, even when He knows the outcome? In what ways can we reflect Jesus' compassion by entering into others' grief or struggle without rushing to fix it?
6. Some of the mourners question Jesus' power and capability (v 37). How do you reconcile Jesus' love and power with the presence of suffering and evil in the world? Have you ever had a moment when you wondered, "God, if you can do anything, why didn't you stop this?" If yes, how did you resolve this tension?
7. Rather than worship, the miracle of Lazarus leads some to fear losing influence and control, which prompts them to plot against Jesus (vv 45-53). What does their response reveal about the human heart's resistance to surrender, especially when status or comfort is at stake? How does clinging to control affect our ability to experience the freedom and transformation Jesus offers?
8. Caiaphas unknowingly speaks a deeper spiritual truth (v 50). What was Caiaphas trying to accomplish politically with this statement? Why did he see Jesus' death as necessary for the nation? How does God use Caiaphas' words to point to the gospel, even though Caiaphas didn't understand their true meaning?
9. Because of an active plot to take Jesus' life, He withdraws from public view in Judea (vv 53-54). How does Jesus' example challenge the idea that faithfulness always means visible action or public boldness? Even though Jesus' mission would lead to the cross, now was not the time. What does Jesus' example here teach us about being in tune with God's timing?



HOSPITALITY



MOVEMENT



CONTRIBUTE



COMMITMENT



ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES



SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP