



## Part 6 Intense Power John 11

### Why does God, for all his power, seem to delay in answering prayer?

*“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” John 11:32*

- Delays can help me learn about \_\_\_\_\_
- Delays can help me learn about \_\_\_\_\_

Three important truths about myself and God in this story of delay:

#### 1. It's ok to be \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Jesus wept.” John 11:35*

Am I hiding my hurts in the name of holiness?

#### 2. It's crucial to have \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’” John 11:23*

*“We do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope.” 1Ths. 4:13 (See 1 Cor. 15:51, 54)*

Am I willing to have hope?

(Note Thomas: “Let’s just go with him and die!” Sometimes we prefer bad but believable news to good but hard-to-believe news!)

#### 3. It's vital to make it \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.’” Jn 11:25*

*“Do you believe this?” John 11:26*

*“Yes, Lord,’ she told him, ‘I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.’” John 11:27*

Am I trusting in Him?

Note the response of the religious leaders:

*“If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away... our place...” John 11:48*

### Daily Meditations

Here’s a chance to spend some time each day this week meditating on today’s topic!

**This week’s memory verse:** *“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.’” Jn 11:25*

#### Monday

Think back on this weekend’s message. Write down the delays you feel like you’re facing right now. Keep these in mind as you apply the sermon throughout the week.

How have you been responding to the issues that feel like delays in your life?

What is one thing you heard last weekend that you particularly want to apply to the delays you’re facing?

*Thank God today that you are never out of His watchful care. Thank Him for His concern for you. Ask Him to grow your faith in His ways and timing this week.*

#### Tuesday

Read John 11:1-16. How would you describe Jesus’ relationship with Mary, Martha and Lazarus?

Why did Jesus delay in going to back to Judea to heal Lazarus?

Recall a time when you felt that Jesus was “late” helping you. In hindsight how can you see God’s hand and timing in that situation? How did that impact your faith?

*Thank God today for His perfect timing and love. Thank Him for His past faithfulness to you. Talk to Him about areas in your life where you’re experiencing delays. Ask Him to keep you mindful of His sovereignty and love.*

### **Wednesday**

Read John 11:17-22 & 28-37. Make a list of the emotions you see in these passages.

How does Mary and Martha's honesty with Jesus help you?

How does it encourage you to know that Jesus was moved to the point of tears?

Why do you think it is difficult for people to embrace sadness when they feel it? How is it difficult for you?

What do you learn from Jesus' example in this passage about emotions and life's delays? How can you apply that to your life right now?

*Thank God today for the Bible and the real-life stories you read. Thank God for giving you the ability to experience emotions. Ask Him to help you be real as you go through life's delays. Pray that you will be a support and encouragement to the people in your life dealing with sadness.*

### **Thursday**

Read John 11:21-27, 32 & 38-44 . How do you see hope in these verses?

What do Martha and Mary base their hope on?

Think about the delays you are facing in life. Honestly, do you feel hope? Why or why not.

List three things you know about God's faithfulness to you in the past.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How can these impact your hope in the current delays of life?

*Talk to God honestly about your life delays. Thank Him for His faithfulness to you. Ask Him to grow your faith and hope in Him in the days ahead. Pray that your confidence and hope in God will be a light and encouragement to those around you in life delays.*

### **Friday**

Read John 11:25-27. Why do you think Jesus wanted to know if Martha believed what Jesus said?

What does keeping your faith personal mean to you?

How have you been tempted to keep God at "arm's length" during life's delays?

Think about the life delays you wrote down on Monday. Do you believe that God is with you and in control of situations in your life that seem delayed and out of your control? Do you believe that God can "raise the dead" in your life - your hurts, broken relationships, financial burdens, whatever you may feel is as good as dead?

*Bring your delays honestly to God today. Reaffirm your faith and trust in Him. Ask Him to continue His work on the delays of your life. Ask Him for the faith to believe that He is your loving Father Who is at work whether you see it or not!*

### **Saturday**

*Today please finish any meditations you might have missed, and please pray for the services this weekend. Thanks!! Keep asking Jesus to help you keep your faith honest and simple!*