

Sovereign Grace Church
“I Am the Resurrection” outline
April 1, 2018

John 11: 17-27

In celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus we will consider a passage concerning an episode in Jesus' life which occurred shortly before His own crucifixion. It concerns the death of his friend Lazarus and his encounter with Lazarus' sister Martha.

Martha believed in Jesus. She knew and had experienced His miraculous power on display and had sat under his marvelous teaching on several occasions. She knew that if Jesus had just come a little sooner her brother would not only not have died, but would have been completely healed. She probably had stronger faith than many of us.

But her faith was still deficient. Jesus had power even beyond what she had personally experienced. On this occasion Jesus teaches Martha the true relationship between the power of death, the power of resurrection and Himself. He also teaches her about its present availability. His point to her and to us is that eternity can be stepped into NOW!

1. Jesus arrives on the scene vv 17-19

2. Martha's Worries vv. 20-22

3. Jesus' Challenge vv. 23-26
Dan. 12: 2; I Cor. 15: 55

4. Martha's Profession v. 27

Summary:

Lessons: Mark 10: 17-22

Questions for Conversation and Contemplation

- 1. As you re-read this account, replace Martha with yourself and Lazarus with the recent death of someone close to you. How does what Jesus teaches challenge your own thoughts on comfort, resurrection and living life?**
- 2. How do you handle issues of loss and suffering in this life? Do you get anxious, worried, or depressed about them? If you do, why? If not, why not? Can you not worry about suffering and still be concerned about it? What is the difference?**
- 3. Read Psalm 23. What does this psalm have to do with life with Jesus? What is the “valley of the shadow of death”? How is it possible to walk through this “valley” and fear no evil? Is such a life available now? Why do so few seem to take it? What is the cost to taking it? What is the benefit?**
- 4. How does one experience pain, suffering & loss in Christ's Kingdom as opposed to one's own? Hebrews 12: 2 says that Christ “endured” the Cross and “despised” the shame. What does this mean? How was He able to do this? Is such available to us? How?**
- 5. What is the difference between having assurance that an apple tastes good before you eat it as opposed to having assurance that an apple tastes good while you eat it? What might this say about our assurance of salvation? What does it mean to be saved?!**