7 SIGNS | RAISING OF LAZARUS

John 11:1–46 · November 22, 2026

SOUTHRIDGE DISCUSSION & PRACTICE GUIDE

01 READ

The seventh and final sign brings us to the death and raising of Lazarus, Jesus' close friend. Jesus delays going to him, weeps at his grave, and then calls him out of the tomb — a sign pointing beyond Lazarus's *resuscitation* to Jesus' *resurrection*. Jesus doesn't just comfort us in grief; he is the resurrection and the life, bringing the hope of the age to come into the present. He invites us, like Lazarus, to come out of our own tombs and truly live. (Watch message recap.)

> *"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.' ... Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'"*
>
> John 11:25, 43

02 REFLECT

- Mary and Martha both said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Have you ever had an "if only" moment with God — wishing Jesus had shown up sooner? What was it like? What do you feel you have learned from it?
- Jesus didn't rush to fix the sisters' grief or explain it away — he wept with them. How does this shape your view of God? What does it feel like to know Jesus weeps with us in our grief? Who in your life may need you to sit with them in their pain, rather than try to fix it?
- Martha believed in a resurrection far off in the future. Jesus told her resurrection life was standing right in front of her. Where do you need to experience Jesus' life breaking into your present, not just someday in the future?
- Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb, but the community had to help remove his grave clothes. What "grave clothes" might you still need others to help you take off?

03 RESPOND

- *Come Alive:* Name one "tomb" you've been living in — a fear, a habit, a numbness — and take one concrete step this week toward the new life Jesus is calling you into.
- *Sit in the Grief:* Reach out to someone who's grieving and simply be present with them this week, without trying to fix or explain their pain.

Come back ready to share where you heard Jesus calling you to "come alive" this week.