Wake me up!

John 11:1-45

Jesus visits Mary and Martha, four days after their brother Lazarus has died. He says, 'I am the resurrection and the life', and tells them Lazarus will rise again. Jesus weeps for Lazarus; then he calls him from the tomb, restored to life.

Read this week's passage:

WATCH

Watch the resurrection of Lazarus from *The Chosen*. Think about the reactions of all of the different characters in the scene. What would you have done if you had been there two thousand years ago?

WALK

The raising of Lazarus looks forward to Jesus' own resurrection at Easter. Go for a walk around your community and look for signs of new life. Give thanks for these and remember our coming Easter hope through the week.

PLAY

Play a game of sleeping lions with friends or family. Scan the QR code for instructions.

Find more free Roots resources to reflect on this week's theme:

Living Scripture

Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live' John 11:25

In the last and climactic of the 'I Am' sayings of John's Gospel, Jesus declares himself to be the 'resurrection and the life' (John 11:25). Both this saying and the accompanying miracle, or sign, of the raising of Lazarus have present and future significance. Lazarus is restored to life in this world. Jesus is presented as the life-giver. As such, he is the one we look to each new day for all we need to live and to live well. In addition to this as the 'resurrection and the life', Jesus is the one in whom we can look forward to the day – a day Martha alludes to (John 11:24) – when our bodies will expire and we will be raised to new life, never to die again. So, for followers of Jesus, resurrection is both a present experience to be enjoyed and a future experience to look forward to. It is life-changing for both now and for all eternity. Thank God for our future hope of resurrection, and the life we enjoy today.

First impressions

- Are you awake to new possibilities and opportunities?
- In what ways does the raising of Lazarus wake up the other participants in the story?
- What would you like God to awaken in you?

Pray

Dear Lord,
we pray for ourselves,
that you would wake us up again
to your love and your new life.
We pray this also for those we love
but who don't know you yet.
Amen.

DRAW

Jesus cried with Mary and Martha in their loss, and he rejoiced with them when Lazarus came back to life.

Find a stone or pebble and paint or draw on it (with permanent markers) as a reminder that God is always with you – however you feel.

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