

JESUS WENT

...TO UNEXPECTED PLACES

NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER | MAR 27, 2022

PASTOR DAVID LARSON | TURLOCK

PASTOR JEREMY MOORE | PATTERSON



God can do anything, you know - far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us. Ephesians 3:20 (MSG)

1. Jesus invites me to _____ again.

When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again." "Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?" John 11:20-26 (NLT)

Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!" John 11:43-44 (NLT)

2. Jesus invites me to get away and _____ with Him.

Massive crowds continually gathered to hear him speak and to be healed from their illnesses. But Jesus often slipped away from them and went to out-of-the-way places to pray. Luke 5:15b-16

3. Jesus invites me to experience _____.

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him. Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor - sick people do." Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." Matthew 9:9-13 (NLT)

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1. Jesus invites me to LIVE again.

When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again." "Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?" John 11:20-26 (NLT)

Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!" John 11:43-44 (NLT)

2. Jesus invites me to get away and CONNECT with Him.

Massive crowds continually gathered to hear him speak and to be healed from their illnesses. But Jesus often slipped away from them and went to out-of-the-way places to pray. Luke 5:15b-16

3. Jesus invites me to experience HEALING.

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him. Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?" When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor - sick people do." Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." Matthew 9:9-13 (NLT)



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WEEK 4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[CONNECT]

What's the best thing you've ever discovered in an out of the way place? Restaurant? View? Friendship?, etc.

[ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

[GROW]

Take turns around your group reading through John 11:1-44. What stands out in this story about Lazarus? Why do you think Jesus waited? v. 35 is the shortest verse in the Bible "Jesus wept." Why do you think he wept?

Are there hopes and dreams that have died in you? How can you bring those to Jesus to find life?

Look up these verses in your group and read them out loud. Matt. 14:23; Matt. 26:36; Mark 1:35; Mark 6:46; Luke 5:16; Luke 6:12; Luke 9:18; Luke 11:1. Why do you think Jesus did this again and again?

How can you live in a different rhythm to have time to connect with Jesus?

Read Matt 9:9-13. How do you think Matthew felt when Jesus invited him? What was it about Jesus that "disreputable sinners" found engaging? How have you experienced wholeness in Jesus?

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Commit to taking several days this week and making time to connect with Jesus. You don't need to "accomplish" anything... just be WITH Him. It will probably be uncomfortable at first, but stay quiet and sense His presence with you.