

March 22 Online Worship Student Ministry Resource

Students and parents of students, feel free to use all or part of the below resource as a piece of your worship this morning.

1. **Read** John 11:14-44
2. **Question:** In v. 15 Jesus tells his disciples, *“For your sake I am glad I was not there [to heal Lazarus], so that you may believe.”* What is your reaction to Jesus’ words in this verse? Do they bother you or make sense?
3. **Questions:** In v. 33 of this passage, it says that on seeing Mary weep Jesus “was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.” Then in v. 35 we read that Jesus weeps.
 - Why do you think Jesus weeps even though he knows he is going to bring Lazarus back to life?
 - What is your reaction to these responses of Jesus? Are you indifferent, encouraged, confused?
4. **Story & Question:**
 - When I (Michael) was in college, my campus minister was a man named Jim Brinkerhoff. Jim was the single greatest influence on my faith apart from my parents. As a senior in college I had the privilege of getting to intern with Jim at our campus ministry. One morning, at the end of my first semester interning, Jim died suddenly of either a heart attack or stroke. I cried and cried that day. And almost without fail, whenever I saw friends, mentors, or my parents crying in their sadness at Jim’s death, I would begin to cry all over again. I likely shed more tears on that day than any other in my life.
 - What is a moment in your life that has caused you to cry in sadness or distress? Do you think God was similarly saddened by this moment?
5. **Watch** this Bible Project video from the 7:30 mark till the end of the video (1:15 total).
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G-2e9mMf7E8>
6. **Read** John 12:23-26
7. **Question:** If you were going to put the verses you just read (John 12: 23-26) into your own words or explain them to someone else, what would you say? What do you think Jesus means?
8. **Question:** How might the story of Jesus raising Lazarus and John 12:23-26 be connected?

9. **Listen** to “Resurrecting” by Elevation Worship.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHGFNUIEZ8M>

- I also recommend (especially for the students and our *hip* parents) “Lazarus” by Trip Lee. Just a heads up, it is a Christian rap song so it might be difficult to sing along with it. ☺

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87nyWNo4kCE>

- Extra Credit song: I also stumbled upon the song “Jesus Wept” by the artist Sia. I can’t speak to if Sia is a believer, but this is a beautiful and truth-filled song. The lyrics especially speak to Jesus’ ability to bring resurrection to those who struggle with addiction. The song does reference (though in a negative light) substance abuse. I will leave it to the discretion of parents to decide if the song is appropriate for their child.

Lyrics: <https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/sia/jesuswept.html>

Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVeJNHX9Tfk>

10. **Question:** What part of your life needs resurrection? What part of your community needs resurrection?
11. **Summary Takeaway:** Jesus, like us, weeps over the pain in the world. But even death does not have the power to keep Jesus from removing pain from, and bringing plenty to, the world.
12. **Close** by reading aloud and together Psalm 16:5-11 (NIV) as a prayer.

⁵LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.

⁶The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.

⁷I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.

⁸I keep my eyes always on the LORD.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

⁹Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,

¹⁰ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.

¹¹ You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Amen.