



Walking With the Savior

Through An Eyewitness Account of John

John, one of the sons of Zebedee, stood as an eyewitness to the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. He began his journey as a fisherman, leaving behind his nets and the future he had planned for himself to follow a teacher, a prophet, and a miracle worker. At the outset, John did not fully understand who Jesus was or what lay ahead. In faith, he aligned himself with Jesus, drawn by His words and deeds. As John walked alongside Jesus, witnessing His teachings and miracles, he gradually realized that Jesus was far more than a prophet or a remarkable teacher. John came to understand that Jesus was God in the flesh. This revelation was not just a turning point for John personally, but a moment of eternal significance. By choosing to follow Jesus, John's future was forever changed, and his decision would go on to impact the world—not only in his own time but throughout every generation to come. ***Let's embark on an inspiring journey with John as we walk alongside Jesus.***

Background Matters

11:38–39. Disturbed emotionally (cf. comments on **deeply moved**, in v. 33), He **came to the tomb**. Tombs were often cut into limestone making a **cave** in the side of a wall of rock. A **stone** was placed over **the entrance**. **Jesus** commanded that **the stone** door be taken **away**. To do so was to risk defilement. But obedience was necessary if Jesus' purpose was to be realized. The scene was highly dramatic. The crowd watched and listened. Mary was weeping and **Martha** objected because after **four days** putrefaction had set in.

11:40. **Jesus** reminded Martha of His earlier promise (vv. 25–26; cf. v. 4). If she **believed** His word that He is the Resurrection and the Life and trusted Him, **God** would be glorified. But unless the sisters had trusted Jesus, permission would not have been given to open the tomb.

11:41–42. With **the stone** taken **away**, the tension mounted. What would **Jesus** do? He simply thanked His **Father** for granting His request. He knew He was doing the Father's will in manifesting His love and power. His prayer of thanksgiving was public, not so that He would be honored as a Wonder-Worker but so He would be seen as the Father's obedient Son. The granting of His



request by the Father would give clear evidence to the people that He had been **sent** by the Father and would cause the people to **believe** (cf. Elijah's prayer; 1 Kings 18:37).

11:43–44. On other occasions **Jesus** had said that men would hear His voice and come out of their graves (5:28) and that His sheep hear His voice (10:16, 27). After His brief prayer He **called** (*ekraugasen*, lit., "shouted loudly") **in a loud voice**. This verb is used only nine times in the New Testament, eight of them in the Gospels (Matt. 12:19; Luke 4:41; John 11:43; 12:13; 18:40; 19:6, 12, 15; Acts 22:23).

Jesus shouted only three words: **Lazarus come out!** Augustine once remarked that if Jesus had not said Lazarus' name all would have come out from the graves. Immediately, **the dead man came out**. Since he was **wrapped** in **strips of linen**, a special work of God's power must have brought him out. Jesus' directive to the people, **Take off the grave clothes**, enabled Lazarus to move on his own and at the same time gave evidence that he was alive and not a ghost.

This event is a marvelous picture of God's Son bringing life to people. He will do this physically at the Rapture for church saints (1 Thes. 4:16), and at His return for Old Testaments saints (Dan. 12:2) and Tribulation saints (Rev. 20:4, 6). Also He now speaks and calls spiritually dead people to spiritual life. Many who are dead in sins and trespasses believe and come to life by the power of God (Eph. 2:1–10).¹

This week in "Walking With the Savior,"

*Jesus shouted only three words: **Lazarus, come out!** Augustine once remarked that if Jesus had not called Lazarus by name, all the dead would have come out of their graves.*

This is our third week looking closely at Jesus' encounter with His friend Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. John devotes an entire chapter to this moment so that we will not rush past its meaning. Last week, we saw how Jesus handles loss: when sorrow calls, compassion answers. This week, we see Jesus act on that sorrow and bring the perfect solution to everyone's greatest fear—the call for the dead to live again. And He did it without hesitation. At the sound of Jesus' voice, life came into the dead Lazarus.

¹ Edwin A. Blum, "John," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 314–315.



Study Guide 36

This study guide presents daily assignments that are specifically crafted to enhance your growth in the Word. Embrace each moment to meditate and reflect, and watch as your spiritual maturity flourishes through your dedicated efforts.

HE SPEAKS LIFE TO THE DEAD

Jesus Raises Lazarus

John 11:38–44

Open It, Mondays. Open your heart and mind to the truth of the Word.

1. What do the people you know fear most in life?

Explore It, Tuesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

2. How did Jesus feel when He went to Lazarus's tomb? (11:38)

3. In what type of tomb was Lazarus buried? (11:38)

4. *What did Jesus tell the others to do? (11:39)

5. How did Martha respond to Jesus' request? (11:39)



6. *How did Jesus show Martha the importance of her belief? (11:40)

7. What did Jesus do before He called to Lazarus? (11:41–42)

8. What did Jesus say to the Father? Why? (11:41–42)

9. *How did Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead? (11:43–44)

Push on Wednesdays; keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

10. What did Lazarus do when Jesus called to him? (11:44)

11. What did Jesus tell the people to do? (11:44)

12. When have you been deeply moved?

13. Under what circumstances have you doubted the power of God?

14. *When have you had faith in God's ability to work out an impossible situation?

15. *What is one miracle God has done in your life?



16. How does God show His glory to us?

Get It Thursdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

17. In what way has God shown His glory to you?

18. In what way has God “raised you from the dead”?

19. If you had been there when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, how do you think you might have responded?

20. *What specific situation do you need to trust God to work out in your life?

Drive it Home, Fridays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

21. For what “miracle” do you want to thank God today?

22. What can you do today so that others might believe in Jesus?

A Journey Through The Gospel of John **2026**

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