



## LAZARUS ~ When Your Faith Is Challenged

**John 11:1-44 -- March 30 & 31, 2019**

*Lent is the 40 days, not counting Sundays, that lead us to Easter.*

Even when your faith is challenged Jesus remains faithful.

Remember when you're in a setback, it's hard to see reality. So,

### REALITY CHECK #1:

1. Jesus has a \_\_\_\_\_ you don't see

### REALITY CHECK #2:

2. Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_ you don't understand

### REALITY CHECK #3:

3. Jesus' future plan is bigger than your current \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus doesn't want to minimize what you're going through, He wants to maximize what He's leading you to.

Even when your setback challenges your faith, Jesus remains faithful. Remember this great truth:

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him... Romans 8:28*

### REALITY CHECK #4:

4. Jesus' plan brings God \_\_\_\_\_.

*You are invited to use this paper to take notes during the worship experience on the message and then study it at home or in a small group.*

## Connect Guide

### Discuss:

1. What do you do when your faith gets challenged? When you hold onto the promise of God but it feels like God's promise doesn't come true? Do you worry? Do you lapse into fear? Do you give up?
2. Take a look at Luke 11:1-16. What is Jesus' relationship with Mary, Martha and Lazarus? Do you know anything else about these real-life people? What happened to Lazarus in this section of the Bible story? What is the response of Jesus, the disciples and the sisters?
3. Jesus arrives on the scene in verse 17 (late by human standards). In the following verses, what human emotions and expressions do we see displayed in each person? What action or response does Jesus repeatedly reinforce with Martha and Mary? When do we tend to second-guess God?
4. Did things go according to plan in the lives of Mary, Martha and Lazarus? When have you thought you had a better plan for your life than God? How in our setbacks, does God get to display his power and glory? How have you seen God's power and glory displayed this past week?
5. Even when your faith is challenged, how do you know Jesus remains faithful? Look up the following scriptures. Proverbs 3:5-6; Psalm 27; Matthew 14: 22-31. How do these verses encourage your faith journey?

### Apply:

If you are experiencing a set-back and need to talk to someone at the church, contact the Pastor of Community Care Jerrad Peterman at [JPeterman@CommunityUMChurch.com](mailto:JPeterman@CommunityUMChurch.com).

### Prayer:

God, you know us and love us. You provide and perfect us. Resurrect our body, spirit and mind in ways that reflect your power, glory and honor. Amen.