

SERMON NOTES

May 18, 2025

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

The Art of Developing Life-Deepening Life-Supporting Friendships

John 11

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if one falls, the other will lift up his companion... If one can be overpowered when alone, two can resist. A cord that is woven together with three strands is not easily torn apart."

How _____ are you to the other people here at Hanoverdale Church?

John 11:1-2

"Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill."

Vs. 3 "So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus..."

Vs. 6? "He stayed two days longer in the place where he was."

Vs. 11-14 "After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died..."

When you come to the end of your resources, then there is _____.

Vs. 17-22 "Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days ... So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that _____ from God, God will give you."

Vs. 23-26 "Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "_____ the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he dies, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

Vs. 38-44 "Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "_____." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "_____, and let him go."

God desires to use even the bad things in life to _____ Himself and build His church.

1. He used people to complete his action. Vs. 39

2. He healed Lazarus: vs. 43

3. He got others involved in the miracle. Vs. 44

God was teaching us to be _____ with other people.

Romans 12:15 "Rejoice with those who rejoice. Mourn with those who mourn."

Hebrews 10:24-25 *"And let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the day drawing near".*

Want to try this? Put up your antennae and look around.

Ask questions like:

- "I know that there are people here who are burdened and hurting. To whom can I speak a word of love and concern?"
- To whom is God asking you to minister today?

When coming home from work or school ask:

- "When I walk through that door, I want to minister love to my family no matter what I might find, see, hear or experience. Help me minister today.
- Give me words and actions that will encourage.
- Help me listen to the responses of "How are you doing today"?
- Help me respond with words that show an interest in hearing more.

Isaiah 61:3 - *The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; Because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted; To proclaim liberty to captives; And freedom to prisoners. . . Giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning; The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness; The planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified."*