

## LEARNING TO HEAR HIS VOICE: A JOURNEY TO JESUS

### WEEK 8

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### *Jesus Makes Suffering Understandable ... to the Sufferer*

**D**o you have a prayer that has remained unanswered? Does God seem to be hiding Himself from you? *Why does He delay?* Why does He allow you and your loved ones to suffer so? One reason for His delay seems to be to allow us time to exhaust every other avenue of help until we come to the conclusion, without any doubt, that we are totally helpless without Him, and we rest our faith in Him and Him alone.

Jesus' delay in answering our prayers is never due to preoccupation or indifference with other things or an inability to act. His delay has a purpose.

Jesus patiently persisted in developing Martha's faith until it was focused on Him, and Him alone. With eyes that must have seemed to penetrate past her doubting mind and into her bleeding heart to the very depths of her being, He replied with words that have resonated through the centuries, giving hope at the gravesides of thousands of believers of every generation, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26) *Do you believe this ...?*

LEARNING TO HEAR HIS VOICE: A JOURNEY TO JESUS  
WEEK EIGHT - DAY ONE

| <p><i>Step 1:</i> READ GOD’S WORD.<br/>Look at the passage.</p>   | <p><i>Step 2:</i> WHAT DOES GOD’S<br/>WORD SAY?<br/>List the facts.</p> | <p><i>Step 3:</i> WHAT DOES GOD’S<br/>WORD MEAN?<br/>Learn the lessons.</p> | <p><i>Step 4:</i> WHAT DOES GOD’S<br/>WORD MEAN TO ME?<br/>Listen to His voice.</p> |
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| <p><b>JOHN 11:1-6</b></p> <p><b>1</b> Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.</p> <p><b>2</b> This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.</p> <p><b>3</b> So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.”</p> <p><b>4</b> When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.”</p> <p><b>5</b> Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.</p> <p><b>6</b> Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.</p> |   |   |   |

LEARNING TO HEAR HIS VOICE: A JOURNEY TO JESUS  
WEEK EIGHT - DAY TWO

| <p><i>Step 1:</i> READ GOD'S WORD.<br/>Look at the passage.</p>  | <p><i>Step 2:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD SAY?<br/>List the facts.</p> | <p><i>Step 3:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN?<br/>Learn the lessons.</p> | <p><i>Step 4:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN TO ME?<br/>Listen to His voice.</p> |
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| <p><b>JOHN 11:7-16</b></p> <p>7 Then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."</p> <p>8 "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews tried to stone you, and yet you are going back there?"</p> <p>9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? A man who walks by day will not stumble, for he sees by this world's light.</p> <p>10 It is when he walks by night that he stumbles, for he has no light."</p> <p>11 After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."</p> <p>12 His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better."</p> <p>13 Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.</p> <p>14 So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,</p> <p>15 and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."</p> <p>16 Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."</p> |   |   |   |

LEARNING TO HEAR HIS VOICE: A JOURNEY TO JESUS  
WEEK EIGHT - DAY THREE

| <p><i>Step 1:</i> READ GOD'S WORD.<br/>Look at the passage.</p>   | <p><i>Step 2:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD SAY?<br/>List the facts.</p> | <p><i>Step 3:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN?<br/>Learn the lessons.</p> | <p><i>Step 4:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN TO ME?<br/>Listen to His voice.</p> |
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| <p><b>JOHN 11:17-27</b></p> <p><b>17</b> On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.</p> <p><b>18</b> Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem,</p> <p><b>19</b> and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.</p> <p><b>20</b> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.</p> <p><b>21</b> "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died.</p> <p><b>22</b> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."</p> <p><b>23</b> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."</p> <p><b>24</b> Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."</p> <p><b>25</b> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;</p> <p><b>26</b> and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?</p> <p><b>27</b> "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."</p> |   |   |   |

LEARNING TO HEAR HIS VOICE: A JOURNEY TO JESUS  
WEEK EIGHT - DAY FOUR

| <p><i>Step 1:</i> READ GOD'S WORD.<br/>Look at the passage.</p>  | <p><i>Step 2:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD SAY?<br/>List the facts.</p> | <p><i>Step 3:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN?<br/>Learn the lessons.</p> | <p><i>Step 4:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN TO ME?<br/>Listen to His voice.</p> |
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| <p><b>JOHN 11:28-37</b></p> <p><b>28</b> And after she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you."</p> <p><b>29</b> When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him.</p> <p><b>30</b> Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.</p> <p><b>31</b> When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.</p> <p><b>32</b> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord if you had been here, my brother would not have died."</p> <p><b>33</b> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.</p> <p><b>34</b> "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied.</p> <p><b>35</b> Jesus wept.</p> <p><b>36</b> Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"</p> <p><b>37</b> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"</p> |   |   |   |

LEARNING TO HEAR HIS VOICE: A JOURNEY TO JESUS  
WEEK EIGHT - DAY FIVE

| <p><i>Step 1:</i> READ GOD'S WORD.<br/>Look at the passage.</p>  | <p><i>Step 2:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD SAY?<br/>List the facts.</p> | <p><i>Step 3:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN?<br/>Learn the lessons.</p> | <p><i>Step 4:</i> WHAT DOES GOD'S<br/>WORD MEAN TO ME?<br/>Listen to His voice.</p> |
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| <p><b>JOHN 11:38-44</b></p> <p><b>38</b> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance.</p> <p><b>39</b> "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."</p> <p><b>40</b> Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"</p> <p><b>41</b> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.</p> <p><b>42</b> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."</p> <p><b>43</b> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"</p> <p><b>44</b> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."</p> |   |   |   |

