



I. OPEN/INTRO

A. Palm Sunday and the start of the Miraculous series

- **Two special things with this series**
 - **Week of prayer before Easter Sunday**
 - **Baptism April 30th**

B. Easter, the resurrection of Jesus, is more than a yearly celebration of an event

Romans 8:11 (NLT) The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

- The resurrection isn't a holiday but a person!

John 11:25-26 (NIV) ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

C. The miracle in question starts like every miracle it starts as an impossible situation

II. LAZARUS MEETS THE RESURRECTION

A. One of the notable miracles of Jesus

John 11:1-3 (NIV) Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (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.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

B. When it comes to miracles we think it's our goodness that moves God's love for us

- **The thing that moves God's heart is God's love!**

III. LAZARUS STORY

A. Lazarus Story

John 11:5-6 (NIV) ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

- **We don't always understand how God works**



B. He's sleeping – I'll go and wake him up.

John 11:11-15 (NIV) ¹¹After 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." ¹²His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better."¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. ¹⁴So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,

C. Death isn't final

John 11:17-20 (NIV) ¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

- Four days is significant

D. What is it in your life that's been dead for four days

Psalm 77:14 (TLB) You are the God of miracles and wonders! You still demonstrate your awesome power.

IV. WITH JESUS DEATH IS NEVER FINAL

A. Settle who Jesus is

John 11:27 (NIV) ²⁷"Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

- She had an expectancy from God not an expectation of God

John 11:23-24 (NIV) ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

- Martha was looking at the resurrection as an event waiting to happen but Jesus wanted her to see it in a different way

John 11:25-26 (NIV) ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

B. If you believe - Don't be surprised if you're asked to do something that won't make sense

John 11:38-39 (NIV) ³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹"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."

C. Jesus is calling and you have a choice



CHRISTIAN CENTER

Miraculous

Part 1
April 9, 2017

Death is Never Final



John 11:43-44 (NIV) ⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The 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.”

- Be defined by the life that’s in you not the death that surrounds you

Luke 24:4-5 (NIV) ⁴While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead?”

D. I believe the conditions are right