

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of October 2, 2016

This Week's Focus: Jesus is the life-giving Son of God whose love saves us from sin, sustains us in suffering, and empowers us to live for God's glory and our joy.

This Week's Text: John 11:1-27

"God glorifies himself towards the creatures also [in] two ways: (1) by appearing to them, being manifested to their understanding; (2) in communicating himself to their hearts, and in their rejoicing and delighting in, and enjoying the manifestations which he makes of himself. . . . God is glorified not only by his glory being seen, but by its being rejoiced in. . . . [W]hen those that see it delight in it: God is more glorified than if they only see it; his glory is then received by the whole soul, both by the understanding and by the heart. God made the world that he might communicate, and the creature receive, his glory; and that it might [be] received both by the mind and heart. He that testifies his idea of God's glory [doesn't] glorify God so much as he that testifies also his approbation of it and his delight in it." **Jonathan Edwards**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- What is the setting of this week's passage of Scripture? Why did Jesus wait two days before traveling to Bethany? Reference verses 4 and 15. How do we reconcile God's love for us with his answer to wait?
- Have there been times in your life when God has told you to wait? What does it mean to have an eternal perspective? Reference verse 27. How does having eternal perspective (and a gospel-mindset) in the midst of painful circumstances lead to joy in Jesus Christ?
- Why did the disciples warn Jesus not to travel to Judea? Summarize Jesus' response. Why would he not be deterred?
- In this passage what does Jesus reveal to us about himself, his love, and his plan to save sinners? Reference verses 4, 9-10, 11, 15, 25-26. What does it mean that Jesus is the "resurrection and the life"? What promise does Jesus make to those who believe in him?
- How does the passage encourage you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?