

4 Lesson

The Day Jesus Cried

John 11; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 524-536

Has someone you loved died? Have you lost a friend or a pet?

One day Jesus visited some friends who shared bad news with Him. What do you think He did then?

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus lived in Bethany, not far from Jerusalem. These two sisters and their brother were close friends of Jesus. He often stayed with them when He was in Bethany. They knew His power, so when Lazarus became sick, Mary and Martha sent word to Jesus.

But Jesus did not hurry. He stayed where He was for two more days. Then He started for Bethany. By the time He got there, Lazarus had been dead for four days.

Jesus knew Lazarus would die. He planned to raise Lazarus from the dead. This would prove that He, Jesus, was the Son of God.

But Lazarus' poor sisters didn't know about Jesus' plan. All they knew was that Lazarus had been sick. And they had sent for Jesus, and He hadn't come. When

Martha heard that Jesus was nearing the village, she went out to meet Him. "If You had been here, my brother wouldn't have died," she said. But there was still a glimmer of hope in her. "I know that even now God will give You whatever You ask," she added.

"I am the resurrection and the life," said Jesus. "Whoever lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes," said Martha. "I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God." She had new hope in



her heart, and she ran and got her sister.

"The Teacher is here," she told Mary. "He is asking for you."

The Message

God wants me to
care about others.

Memory Verse

“Carry each other’s
burdens”

(Galatians 6:2).

Mary jumped up and hurried outside the village to meet Jesus. When she saw Him, she fell at His feet and cried the same thing Martha had. “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.”

Jesus looked at His two friends who were heartbroken and crying. His own tender heart was moved, and Jesus cried too. He shared Mary and Martha’s loss. He felt the sorrow they were feeling, and He cried with them.

We should treat others as Jesus did and feel what they are feeling. Just as Jesus shared His friends’ loss, we are to share one another’s joys and sorrows.

But Jesus was not only crying because He felt sorry for Mary and Martha. He was not crying because Lazarus had died, because He knew that he was going to raise him from the dead soon. Some people thought that’s why Jesus was crying, so they said, “See how he loved him!” But Jesus was crying because of them! Many of them would not accept Him as Savior and would eventually die without forgiveness of their sins and the hope of eternal life. It makes Jesus sad when people do not choose to trust Him.

We should show our care for others as Jesus did. We should tell others how much Jesus loves them and wants to give them the best life. Some

people will choose Jesus, and others won’t. We should be sad for those who will die without choosing God’s way.





S A B B A T H

DO Go with your family to a cemetery or other quiet place outdoors. Read your lesson story together. Make believe that you are near Lazarus' burial place. Imagine that you were there when Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb.

READ Read your memory verse to your family.

S U N D A Y

READ During family worship, read together John 11:1-44, each family member reading one verse at a time.

DO Together, think of people you know who are sad. Choose one and plan how your family can show caring to them this week. Pray for them today.

SING Sing together "Make Me a Servant" (*He Is Our Song*, no. 126).

DO Teach the memory verse to your family.

M O N D A Y

DO Begin an experiment with your family (to be finished later this week). Put a very ripe piece of fruit in a dark place and leave it there for four days. On Friday, look at it again.

READ How long was Lazarus in the grave? Read John 11:17 to find out.

DO On a big piece of paper, write your memory verse inside a circle. Make it look like the stone that covered Lazarus' tomb. Then read or say the memory verse to an adult. Pray for those who have lost loved ones recently.

T U E S D A Y

SHARE During family worship, draw a sad or crying face. Read John 11:35. Talk about the verse with your family. If Jesus can cry when He is sad, what does this teach you about crying today? Is it all right for grown-ups to cry too? Do you think Jesus has ever cried for you?

DO Say your memory verse together, then thank Jesus for caring for you.

W E D N E S D A Y

DO With your family, talk about what you can do to show that you really care about each other. Write or draw your loving action on a card, and make a commitment to do this before Sabbath. Read together Galatians 6:10. Is this verse good for families too?

READ Read the memory verse in a different way by inserting the names of the members of your family where it says "each other." Tell how you will carry someone's burden today.

Raising Lazarus from the dead showed that nothing is stronger than Jesus—not even death.





THURSDAY

READ

Discuss with your family: What can Jesus' example teach us about carrying other people's burdens? Read together Matthew 11:28; Psalm 68:19. In your own words, tell what these texts mean.

DO

Name ways you could have lightened Martha and Mary's burden had you been there.

SHARE

Tell your memory verse to someone whose burden or troubles you would like to help carry.

DO

Sing together "Love Is in Your Hand" (He Is Our Song, no. 134). Then pray for that person.

FRIDAY

DO

At the beginning of family worship, look at your piece of fruit from Monday. What does the fruit look like? Can it be restored? Read John 11:25 together. Who alone has the power to restore life?

READ

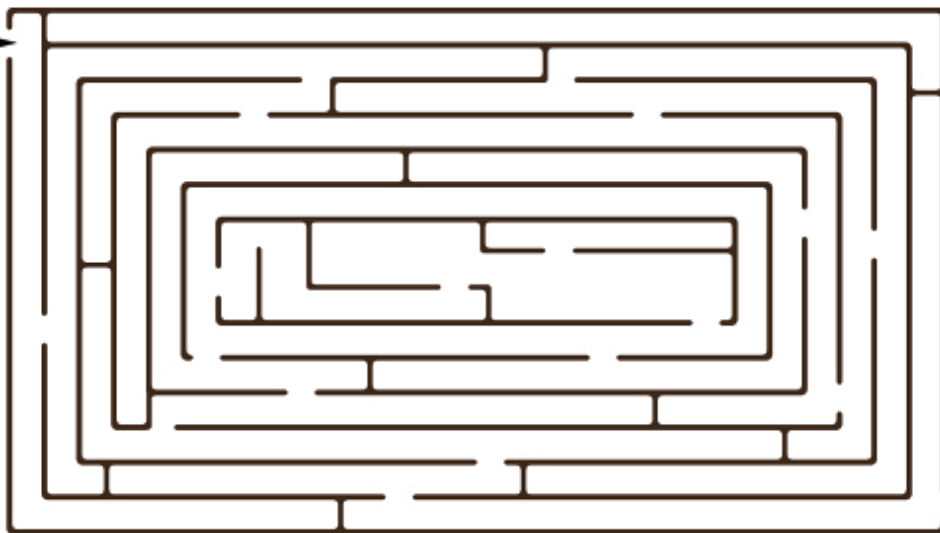
Now read together Romans 15:5. Practice saying words of encouragement as you role play the following situations: a good friend moves away; a pet dies; being sick; bad grades at school; good grades at school; friend gets something new.

SHARE

Report on the caring projects started during Sunday's family worship. Then pray for each person involved.

PUZZLE

Directions: Help Jesus find His way to Bethany to comfort Mary and Martha when Lazarus died.



PRAYER CARD

God is patient and loving with us.
Each day we can pray for others. This chart will help you. Each morning, write a person's name or description in one box, and pray for that person.

1

Someone you need to forgive

5

Your parents

6

A shut-in

7

Community leaders

8

Your cousin

12

A sad person

13

A person who made you cry

14

Your brother or sister

15

A person who was angry over you

19

A person who is out of work

20

A family that is moving away

21

A person who shouted at you

22

A person who gave you your food

26

A grandparent

27

The family of a person who has died

28

The employer of your parent

29

A person who embarrassed you

CALENDAR

<p>1</p> <p>Who you forgive</p>  <hr/>	<p>2</p> <p>A neighbor</p>  <hr/>	<p>3</p> <p>Your teacher</p>  <hr/>	<p>4</p> <p>Quietest kid in your class</p>  <hr/>
<p>5</p> <p>Someone who forgives you</p>  <hr/>	<p>9</p> <p>Someone who owes you money</p>  <hr/>	<p>10</p> <p>Someone who needs a gift</p>  <hr/>	<p>11</p> <p>Your pastor</p>  <hr/>
<p>12</p> <p>Who watches you</p>  <hr/>	<p>16</p> <p>Newest person in your community</p>  <hr/>	<p>17</p> <p>A new baby</p>  <hr/>	<p>18</p> <p>Oldest person you know</p>  <hr/>
<p>19</p> <p>Who grows you</p>  <hr/>	<p>23</p> <p>The newest kid in your class</p>  <hr/>	<p>24</p> <p>A person who made you angry</p>  <hr/>	<p>25</p> <p>A happy person</p>  <hr/>
<p>26</p> <p>Who teased you</p>  <hr/>	<p>30</p> <p>A person who was impatient with you</p>  <hr/>	<p>31</p> <p>For the soon return of Jesus</p>  <hr/>	