



# LET'S GO DEEPER

## SERMON NOTES – Didn't I tell you? – November 17 – Pastor Peter

John 11:38-44

“Jesus was still deeply moved as He arrived at the tomb, a cave with a stone rolled across its entrance. ‘Roll the stone aside,’ Jesus told them. But Martha, the dead man’s sister, protested, ‘Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible.’ Jesus responded, ‘Didn’t I tell you that you would see God’s glory if you believe?’ So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, thank you for hearing Me. You always hear Me, but I said it out loud for the sake of all these people standing here, so that they will believe you sent Me.’ Then Jesus shouted, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, ‘Unwrap him and let him go!’”

### 1. Roll the Stone Aside

John 11:39 “...But Martha, the dead man’s sister, protested, ‘Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible.’”

This isn’t just an observation, ‘Jesus, you do realize this is going to smell bad’ this is a protest.

Previously, Jesus spent time in the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus.

John 11:20 “When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him. But Mary stayed in the house.”

This time, Jesus doesn’t get anywhere near their home and Mary doesn’t even go to meet Him.

### QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you think Jesus didn’t come into the house with Maria?

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2. How is a difficult situation a good opportunity to see God’s power?

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3. What do you think Jesus was referring to in John 11:40

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## 2. How is believing in Jesus different than just knowing who he is?



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## Represents the Power of Jesus

When Jesus shouts, 'Lazarus, come out!' Jesus' words pierce and penetrate through the wall separating life and death. The voice of Almighty God can awaken that which is dead.

## Represents Us

And Lazarus represents us. We were in a grave. We were lost and without hope.

Eph. 2:1 "Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins."

We were dead. But then something happens. Jesus shows up. Jesus comes to our lives. And by faith we escape from the grave.

Eph. 5:8,9 "For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true."

In Luke 8 Jairus comes to Jesus asking Him to heal his daughter.

Luke 8:49 "While He was still speaking to her, a messenger arrived from the home of Jairus, the leader of the synagogue. He told him, 'Your daughter is dead. There's no use troubling the Teacher now.'"

The man calls Jesus 'the Teacher.' Because, to him that's all Jesus is. He doesn't believe in Him yet.

But we know who He is and we won't limit what Jesus can do.

## QUESTIONS:

1. How does Jesus involve the people around him to participate and witness the miracle on Lazarus?

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2. How is the miracle of Lazarus a catalyst for people to believe in Jesus?

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3. How does that apply today to us?

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**Jesus' final command in the story follows quickly on the heels of the one He just made.**

**He says to Lazarus, ‘come out!’ Then He says to the people, ‘Unwrap him and let him go!’ People get to be part of the miracle.**

**Lazarus is alive, but he still has on the clothes of death. He's alive but he's still all tied up.**

**The clothes left over from the old life don't belong on Jesus' followers simply because they don't fit, they restrict.**

**There's freedom from everything that doesn't fit and holds you back from fulfilling all that Jesus has for you.**

**Gal. 5:1 “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.”**

**There's an interesting epilogue to the story.**

**Some time has passed and Jesus comes back to the area to visit Martha, Mary and Lazarus.**

**John 12:9-11 “When all the people heard of Jesus’ arrival, they flocked to see Him and also to see Lazarus, the man Jesus had raised from the dead. Then the leading priests decided to kill Lazarus, too, for it was because of him that many of the people had deserted them and believed in Jesus.”**

**This massive miracle is the catalyst for many people believing in Jesus.**

[illegible]





## Putting it all together (Application)

**3. A new life.** Jesus calls us into a new life, just as he did with Lazarus. And in that process, we need to get stripped of our old ‘clothes’. The bondages from our previous life and open ourselves to be transformed by Jesus into a new creature.

## ACTION STEPS:

[illegible]



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