6 FEB 2022

#### Am The Resurrection

JOHN 11:17-44 PS ISAAC TAN

Blessed Lunar New Year

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. 20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." *John 11: 17 − 37* 

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him.

John 11: 17 – 37

<sup>31</sup> When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

John 11: 17 – 37

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup> And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept. 36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

John 11: 17 – 37



### Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, changes everything.

#### Through 'I Am the Resurrection and the Life' we see Jesus'

- 1. Purpose
- 2. Presence
  - 3. Power

1. **Purpose** - Jesus calls us to believe in God's purposes, even when it doesn't make sense.

<sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he **stayed two days longer** in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

<sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." 8 The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"

1. Purpose - Jesus calls us to believe in God's purposes, even when it doesn't make sense.

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup> and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

John 11: 14 – 16

Even if they had to die, they will still follow Jesus!

We can trust and believe God's purposes, even when it doesn't make sense, because Jesus is in our hearts.

### Many things about tomorrow, I don't seem to understand.

But I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand.

1. **Purpose** - Jesus calls us to believe in God's purposes, even when it doesn't make sense.

### 2. **Presence** – Jesus' presence brings truth AND comfort.

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. 20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. 21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

# To Martha, He responded with truth. To Mary, He responded with with comfort.

## In the presence of Jesus, truth and comfort always go hand in hand.

# When we hit difficult moments in life, our responses shift from either truth or comfort.

## Jesus is the perfect counsellor because He embodies both truth and comfort.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be. Let they goodness like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.

Prone to wander Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love! Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Jesus' truth and comfort can resurrect our faith and bring forth life as we are dead to our sin.

# Jesus' truth and comfort can resurrect our faith and bring forth life, even now!

### 3. Power – We can lean on Jesus' resurrecting power

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." 40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

# The only way Lazarus can walk out of that grave was for Jesus Himself to walk in.

# The resurrection is not just a matter of giving or returning life back.

The Good Shepherd lays down His life for us.

The Light of the World grants us strength to obey Him.

The Resurrection and the Life redeems and renews us

#### Our response: R.E.A.L.

- 1. Run to God
- 2. Exchange lies with truth
  - 3. Articulate your pain
  - 4.Lean on God's power

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### Don't run to the small 'gods' we have created in our lives.

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### We need others to help us to expose the lies and blind spots in our lives.

Our response: R.E.A.L.

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### There is value in articulating your pain. There is value in the tears.

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Jesus has broken the curse of sin in our lives, and we don't have to live in bondage anymore.

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