



WEEK 6

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

John 11:1-27

OPEN

This is our sixth week of our series called "I Am" where we have been exploring the 7 "I Am" statements of Jesus throughout the gospel of John. John's gospel is focused on introducing the *person* and *purpose* of Jesus which he does through these "I Am" statements. Each statement not only reveals the true identity of Jesus, but also serves as an invitation to respond to the type of relationship that Jesus the "I Am" offers each of us. This week we will learn how Jesus is the **resurrection and the life** a direct response to the greatest enemy of all; death.

The antidote to the fear of death is an understanding of the Resurrection and what it means to us as believers. When we die, we go to be with Jesus. However, this is not the final state of the believer. Jesus' resurrection gives us hope for our own future resurrection from the dead where our old bodies will be recreated to be like Jesus' resurrected body.

READ

- **Read John 11:1-44.** Try to imagine the drama and range of emotions present in this story. Picture the events happening in your mind.
 - Describe the mood of the story. What part of the story impacts you the most? How does the narrative of the resurrection of Lazarus make you feel?
- **Read John 20:1-31 (compare Matthew 28:1-13)** Earlier in the scriptures, Jesus foretold of his death, burial and resurrection. In this passage, do we see any evidence that Jesus' followers believed him?
 - Is there any significance or reason as to why Jesus appeared to the 2 Mary's before his disciples?
 - Think of the narrative of Jesus and his appearance to Thomas. What is your opinion of Thomas and his "doubts"?
 - What special invitation was Thomas given by Jesus?

REFLECT

- Reflect on Thomas' invitation from Jesus.
 - What does this teach you about bringing your doubts and questions to Jesus?
 - What are some doubts or questions you need to bring to Jesus today?
- **Read 1 Corinthians 15:42-49.** This is a description of the resurrection of the dead. Describe the hope this gives to us?
 - When looking at the whole picture of the resurrection, what does it say about the value God gives to our physical bodies?
 - What will our resurrected bodies be like?
 - Are you looking forward to that day?
- Jesus' resurrection means that he not only came to provide spiritual healing but physical healing as well.
 - How has the gospel of Jesus provided wholistic healing in your life or the life of someone close to you?
 - How has that impacted your faith?

APPLY/PRAY

- Is there an area of your life where you need to experience the renewing resurrection *life* of Jesus in? Share about that and pray for one another.
- **Do a "MERPS" exercise.** Make a note on your phone or a piece of paper. Choose 1 different word to describe for each category of your life: Mentally, Emotionally, Relationally, Physically, Spiritually. Once you have one word for each category share these with each other thanking Jesus for the growth and asking for healing where you are weak.
 - **EXAMPLE:** Mentally: Rested, Emotionally: Tired, Relationally: Thankful, Physically: Drained, Spiritually: Hungry.
- Pray for Wellspring's elders, staff, and leaders for wisdom and direction.

