



# WE BELIEVE

EXPLORING THE NICENE CREED



## STUDY GUIDE EIGHT – FROM SERMON ON MAR 22/26

As we come to John 11, we step into one of the most powerful and personal moments in the life of Jesus. This story invites us to see both the heart and the power of Christ—His deep compassion and His absolute authority. We watch Him enter into grief, feel the weight of loss, and yet speak life into death itself.

This study is meant to help us slow down and reflect on what this reveals about who Jesus is and what it means for us today.

### LET'S GET STARTED!

What's one moment in your life where you had to wait longer than you wanted for something important? How did that feel?

When you're going through a difficult time, do you tend to want answers/explanations or comfort/presence more? Why?

### THE TENSION OF WAITING & TRUSTING

Read **John 11:1-6**. What stands out to you about Jesus' response to Lazarus' illness? What questions does His delay raise for you?

Why do you think Mary and Martha sent the message the way they did: "Lord, the one you love is sick" (v.3)? What does that reveal about their faith?

Have you ever felt like God delayed in responding to something important in your life? How does this passage speak into that experience?

### JESUS AND MARTHA: TRUTH & DIVINITY

Read **John 11:21-27**. What do you notice about Martha's mixture of faith and disappointment?

Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life." What is He claiming about Himself in this statement?

Martha believed in a future resurrection (v.24). How does Jesus shift her understanding from future hope to present reality?

Why do you think Jesus asks Martha, "Do you believe this?" What makes that question so personal?

### JESUS AND MARY: COMPASSION & HUMANITY

Read **John 11:32-36**. What differences do you notice in how Jesus responds to Mary compared to Martha?

Read **Hebrews 4:14-16**. How does this passage help us understand why Jesus' emotional response matters for us today?

John says Jesus was "deeply moved" (v.33). What do you think He might have been feeling in that moment? What does that reveal about His heart?

### THE MIRACLE: POWER OVER DEATH

Read **John 11:38-44**. What stands out to you about the way Jesus raises Lazarus?

Why is it important that Lazarus had been dead for four days? What does that emphasize about Jesus' power?

### THE BIGGER PICTURE

Read **John 11:45-53**. What is the reaction to this miracle? Why does it lead to a plot against Jesus?

How might this moment be connected to Jesus' own death and resurrection?

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

In this story, Jesus both weeps with people and demonstrates power over death. Which of those do you need to be reminded of most right now—and why?

What does it look like in your life to trust Jesus even when His timing doesn't make sense?

Jesus asks, "Do you believe this?" How would you personally answer that question today?

### CLOSE YOUR TIME TOGETHER BY PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER