

My very own

Stuck at home

2

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1

Back to Cana



DAILY READING:
John 4:46-47

The royal official, or nobleman, was a very important man. All his power and money couldn't solve his terrible problem but there was someone who could!

JOHN 4:46-47 So he came again to Cana in Galilee...And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. ⁴⁷When this man heard that Jesus had come...he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus had left Samaria and returned to Cana. About 20 miles away in the town of Capernaum lived a man who was an official of the government. His son was very sick. When the man heard that Jesus was in Cana, what did he do?

Why do you think the man went to the Lord Jesus for help?

He may have heard about Jesus' miracle at the wedding in Cana. He had faith that Jesus could heal his sick son. Faith is believing God will do what He says. What do you think you need to have to please God?



PRAY

Ask God to help you to learn about faith this week.



DAILY READING:
John 4:46-49

“I wish God would do a miracle, then it would be easier to trust Him.” Have you ever thought like that? Perhaps you wish He would make a sick friend better or stop the rain the moment you ask. Some of the people in Jesus’ day wanted to see Him do many miracles to solve their problems.

JOHN 4:48-49 So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” ⁴⁹The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.”



THINK ABOUT IT!

How do you know Jesus did not want people trusting Him just because of His miracles?

Many of the people refused to believe unless they could see a miracle. Some didn’t believe even then! Jesus wants you to trust Him because of who He is. He wants you to trust what He says. Did Jesus’ words make the official go away? How do you know?

The official was desperate for Jesus’ help. He asked again for Jesus to heal his son. Jesus wants you to continue asking when you need His help. Keep on trusting and your faith will get stronger. Remember that “without faith it is impossible to please God.”



PRAY

Talk to God about things that make it hard for you to trust Him.

3

Taking Jesus at His word

DAILY READING:
John 4:46-50

The official had been sad and worried. His son was ready to die! As he returned home to Capernaum, he was very happy and his worries had disappeared. What made the difference?

JOHN 4:49-50 The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.

THINK ABOUT IT!

Why did Jesus tell the official to go home?

Jesus didn't even need to go to Capernaum to heal the boy. How was He able to heal the boy without being with him?

The royal official knew that Jesus' love and power have no limits! He could do anything! What did the official do?

He had no proof that his son was well but he took Jesus at His word. That is faith—believing what God says. Sometimes life makes no sense. Everything seems to go wrong. In the Bible, God says, “We know that all things work together for good to them that love God” (Romans 8:28). If you really believe these words and trust God, it will make a big difference in your life!



PRAY

Ask God to help you to always take Him at His word.

4

Faith in action



DAILY READING:
John 4:46-50

How can someone tell if you really have faith in God? Can he or she tell by what you say or does it take something more?

JOHN 4:50 Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus told the official his son would live. How did the official show he had faith in what Jesus said?

He did not say, “I believe.” He showed that he believed by his actions. Complete this sentence, “Faith is more than knowing something in your head, it is...”

Believe what God says in the Bible. This will change how you think, talk and act. Suppose you’re worried about riding the bus to school. Tell God how you feel about it. You may also want to talk to an adult you trust. Ask God to give you faith to trust Him. Then what can you do to show you have faith in God?

Getting on the bus shows you trust God. Remember He is right there with you! What will you trust God for today?



PRAY

Ask God to help you act on your faith.

5

Faith rewarded

 **DAILY READING:**
John 4:51-53

While the official was away, his son's sickness became worse. Suddenly there was a remarkable change! The servants must have wondered what had happened.

JOHN 4:51-53 As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. ⁵²So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." ⁵³The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household.

THINK ABOUT IT!

The official's servants met him with some news. What was it?

The official must have been very excited. His son was alive! Why do you think the official asked what time his son got better?

The official's faith had been rewarded just as it says in Hebrews 11:6. God "Is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him". God was with the official in his difficult time. What is something difficult in your life you need to trust God for?

God is always with you, too. He may not do what you want but you can trust Him to do what is best. Remember what the Bible says, "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God" (Romans 8:28). Trust God to work for your good.



PRAY

Thank God that He works for your good as you trust in Him.

6

Family faith



DAILY READING:
John 4:51-53

Can you imagine the excitement in the official's home? Everyone must have been so happy that the son was now well! The son must have been amazed that a man many miles away had been able to heal him.

JOHN 4:53 The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household.



THINK ABOUT IT!

In verse 53 what great change took place in the official's family?

The official trusted Jesus could do a miracle for his son. Then he had faith to take Jesus at His word. Finally not only the official but also everyone in his house believed in Jesus. Life for them would never be the same again. In what way would life be different?

When you trusted Jesus Christ as your Savior, you began a life of faith. God is starting to change your life, too. You can trust Jesus to help you in many ways. You may trust Him to help you with something hard or to be with you when you are afraid. Can you think of one other way you can trust Jesus?



PRAY

Thank God you can always trust Jesus to help you.

7

How's your attitude?

 **DAILY READING:**
Matthew 5:1-3

Have you ever been told, “You have a bad attitude”? Your attitude is the way you think or feel about things. A large group of people came to hear Jesus teach one day. He taught them about attitudes that please God. People with right attitudes will be blessed. They will have real happiness inside.

MATTHEW 5:1-3 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

THINK ABOUT IT!

People think you are blessed if you are rich! Jesus says you are blessed if you are poor in spirit. That is admitting you need God's help. What are some ways you need God to help you?

God helps you by forgiving your sin. Then He wants to take care of every need in your life. What promise does God give in verse three to those who are poor in spirit?

God wants you to have a right attitude. Depend on Him for everything. It's great to know you can have God's help on Earth and a home in Heaven some day, too!

Ask God to help you depend on Him for help!



PRAY

Ask God to help you be a person who loves and obeys Him.



DAILY READING:
Matthew 5:10-12

Tyrone took a deep breath before walking out the door to go to school. He knew what would happen. The other boys would tease him and say mean things because he went to church and told others about Jesus. He prayed before he ate lunch, too. Tyrone knew he was doing what God wanted him to. But the other kids kept teasing him about being a Christian.

MATTHEW 5:10-12 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



THINK ABOUT IT!

To be persecuted is to be treated in a hateful way because of what you believe. Persecution is painful. Did Jesus say people who loved Him would be persecuted for doing wrong or for doing right?

It doesn't sound fair to be hurt for doing right things! Why does verse 12 say you should be glad when you are persecuted?

When people laugh at you or try to hurt you for doing right, think about the good days to come in Heaven. Troubles may last for a while but Heaven will be forever!



PRAY

Ask God to help you have a good attitude even when others persecute you.

9

More than things

 **DAILY READING:**
Luke 12:22-23

What do you need to have in order to live? Maybe you thought of food, water or clothes.

Do you ever worry about not having those things you need? Jesus had something to say about that.

LUKE 12:22-23 And he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.

THINK ABOUT IT!

Worrying is feeling uneasy or anxious about things. What did Jesus say not to worry about?

It’s easy to spend lots of time worrying about things you don’t have. God doesn’t want you to worry about these things. What are some of the important things God wants you to think about instead?

Instead of worrying, spend your time getting to know God better. Think about other people and how you can help them. Thank God for all He has given you. The Bible says, “casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7). What are some things you need to tell God about instead of worrying?



PRAY

Ask God to help you trust Him with everything in your life.

10

Important to God



DAILY READING:
Luke 12:23-29

A bird flies into a store and drops money on the counter for a bag of food. Then it carries the bag home to feed its family. Is that the way it really works? Of course not! God provides food in nature for the birds. If God takes care of the birds, will He take care of you, too?

LUKE 12:28-30 But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! ²⁹And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. ³⁰...your Father knows that you need them.



THINK ABOUT IT!

God takes care of the birds and flowers. What does verse 24 tell you ravens don't do?

God feeds the ravens faithfully even though they don't store up food. He dresses the lilies and other flowers in beautiful colors. God has proven His love by taking care of the birds and flowers. You are much more valuable to Him than they are. You can trust Him to take care of your needs, too. What does verse 29 tell you not to worry about?

You are important to God! How can you show you trust Him to take care of your needs each day?



PRAY

Thank God for taking care of your daily needs.



DAILY READING:
Matthew 10:29-31

Worry isn't always about the everyday needs you have. You might worry about accidents, war or terrorist attacks. There is something Jesus wants you to know when you're tempted to worry.

MATTHEW 10:29-31 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Just think how many sparrows there are! It's amazing that a sparrow can't fall without God allowing it. Sparrows aren't worth nearly as much as you are! What does verse 30 say God knows about you?

God knows you so well He even numbers every hair on your head! Why does verse 31 say you don't need to be afraid?

You don't need to worry about anything! You are worth more to God than many sparrows. Even if there is a war, God has the power to help you. If you are in an accident, God is still there. Nothing can happen that He doesn't know about and allow. You can trust Him completely with your life. What does your memory verse say you can do when you are worried about what might happen?

Will you do it?



PRAY

Ask God to help you trust Him no matter what happens around you.



DAILY READING:
Luke 12:25-26

Josh was very sick. His parents took him to the doctor. The doctor gave Josh medicine but he didn't take it. Instead he just worried about whether or not he would get well. Would worrying help him?

LUKE 12:25-26 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest?



THINK ABOUT IT!

Worrying can't help a sick person recover. It won't get you the things you need. What else does verse 25 tell you worrying won't do?

Worrying doesn't help with much of anything, does it? Then why do you think people worry?

It's natural to worry when problems come. The Bible tells you what to do when you begin to worry. Tell God about your needs. Thank Him that He will answer you. Then God will give you His peace in place of the worry (Philippians 4:6-7). What worries do you need to talk to God about?

Instead of worrying, take your problems to God. Trust Him to help you.



PRAY

Thank God that He is there to help you. Instead of worrying, tell Him about your problems.



DAILY READING:
Luke 7:1-3

If someone you loved were very sick, what would you do? You might take him or her to a doctor or hospital or get medicine. What if none of those things worked?

LUKE 7:2-3 Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. ³When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his servant.



THINK ABOUT IT!

The centurion was a leader who had authority over many Roman soldiers but he had a problem he couldn't solve. What was it?

The centurion had probably tried to get help but the servant he valued was about to die. Why might the centurion have thought Jesus would be able to help?

The centurion might have heard about the things Jesus had done. He had faith Jesus could heal his servant. Jesus was a Jewish teacher. Why would He want to help a Roman soldier? What would you have done if you were the centurion?

The centurion sent some Jewish leaders to ask for Jesus' help.



PRAY

Ask God to help you believe that Jesus can care for all your problems.



DAILY READING:
Luke 7:3-6

If you are saved, you won't have any more problems in life, right? Wrong! As long as you live on Earth, things won't be perfect but there's good news! Read on!

LUKE 7:4-6 And when they came to Jesus, they pleaded with him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy ...⁵for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue." ⁶And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof."



THINK ABOUT IT!

The Jewish elders were important people in the town. They went to Jesus. What did they ask Him to do?

The leaders wouldn't do this for most Romans. They wanted to show Jesus that this centurion was special. What reasons did they give that he deserved help?

The centurion was a Roman but he loved the Jewish people. Why do you think God allowed the servant of this man who loved His people to get sick?

God had a plan all along. God has a plan for you, too. Romans 8:28 says God works all things out for good for those who love Him. God knows about the hard things in your life. He wants you to trust Him to work things out for the best. What hard thing do you need to trust God with today?



PRAY

Thank God that He will work things out for good in your life.



DAILY READING:
Luke 7:4-7

Do you ever feel like you don't deserve all God has done for you? God's love is not something people deserve. He gives it because He wants to. Someone in the story didn't feel deserving either.

LUKE 7:6-7 ...the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. ⁷Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus and the Jewish elders headed toward the centurion's house but before they arrived, who stopped them?

The centurion didn't think he deserved to have Jesus at his house. Why do you suppose he thought that?

The centurion knew Jesus was a great teacher who could do miracles. He believed so strongly that he didn't think Jesus even needed to come to his house. He knew he wasn't worthy to have Jesus there.

You aren't worthy of all the good things God does for you either! You could only be saved from sin because Jesus died for you. It's amazing that He keeps working things out for good in your life, doing what He knows is best! How can you show God your thankfulness?



PRAY

Ask God to help you understand how much He loves you.



DAILY READING:
Luke 7:6-8

Who has authority over you? Who do you have to obey? You may think of your parents, teachers, school principal or others. None of them have nearly as much authority as Jesus has!

LUKE 7:7-8 Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. ⁸For I too am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."



THINK ABOUT IT!

The Roman centurion was sure Jesus could heal his servant. He knew Jesus didn't even need to touch the young man to heal him. What did the centurion ask Jesus to do in verse seven?

The centurion knew Jesus even had power over life and death! The centurion understood authority. He had control over his soldiers. What did they have to do when he gave them orders?

The centurion's men obeyed his commands but he knew Jesus' authority was far greater than his! The centurion truly believed Jesus could do anything. He told Jesus, "Just say the word and my servant will be healed." Do you really believe God can do great things? What great thing will you ask God to do?



PRAY

Ask God to show His great power in your life.



DAILY READING:
Luke 7:6-9

The centurion's servant was about to die. Jesus could heal him yet this centurion had so much faith in Jesus that he stopped Jesus from coming to his house! He trusted Jesus' power completely!

LUKE 7:7, 9 Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed...⁹When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith."



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus was amazed! What did He tell the crowd about the centurion's faith?

The Jews in Israel were Jesus' own people. You would expect them to believe. They had heard Jesus teach and had seen His miracles but no one in Israel had faith like this Roman centurion had. What would you like to have Jesus say about your faith in Him and His power?

If you really have faith in God you will trust Him to do what is best. He may not do what you want, but He will always do what is best.

If you love God you can trust Him to work out everything in your life for good. Ask God to give you greater faith in Him.



PRAY

Thank God that you can trust Him completely.

18

God knows best



DAILY READING:
Luke 7:10

Will God always give you what you ask for?

God has three answers to prayer: yes, no and wait.

He may not give you the answer you want. See if you can find out why as you read.

LUKE 7:7, 10 Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed... ¹⁰And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Did Jesus do what the centurion asked Him to? How do you know?

Jesus healed the centurion's servant. God's Son knew all about this situation. He knew healing the servant was the right thing to do for this man of faith. God knows what is best in your life, too. Why may God answer "no" when you ask Him for something?

God knows everything that will ever happen in your life. He won't give you what you want if He knows it isn't the right time or that it wouldn't be good for you. You can trust God to use His power for the best in your life. What is something you have asked God for that He has answered "wait" or "no"?



PRAY

Thank God that He gives you what you need instead of what you want.



DAILY READING:
Mark 4:35-36

After work, your mom or dad may come home and say, “I need some peace and quiet!” He or she is tired! Do you know that the Lord Jesus became tired, too?

MARK 4:35-36 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus had been teaching crowds of people by a big lake all day long. He must have been very tired! What did He ask the disciples to do?

Why did Jesus want to leave the crowd behind?

Jesus knew He and His disciples needed rest. Jesus needed time with God the Father too. He enjoyed spending time with the Father, but He also shared His needs with Him. God the Father was Jesus’ refuge, His place of safety.

Psalm 46:1 says, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” God would give His Son strength and help. This promise is for you, too, if you are God’s child. What does it say God will be in your time of trouble?



PRAY

Thank God that He is always ready to give you the help and strength you need.



DAILY READING:
Luke 8:23-24

It was dark outside. Thunder crashed! Lightening flashed across the sky! Have you ever been afraid during a storm? Big storms can be dangerous!

LUKE 8:23-24 And as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. ²⁴And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus' disciples were fishermen. They were used to storms on the lake. Why do you think this storm was a problem?

The boat Jesus and the disciples were in was small. If waves swept over it, water would rush into the boat. They were in danger of sinking in the big lake. Jesus was asleep but the disciples were scared! What kinds of things make you afraid?

God's Word says that as long as you are in the world you will have problems (John 16:33). Jesus knows about your problems and how frightening they can be. He wants you to trust Him. Because He is with you, you can have peace instead of fear, even during the problems. He can keep you calm and quiet on the inside. How do you think having peace instead of fear will help you face a problem better?



PRAY

Tell God about your fears and ask Him to give you His peace.



DAILY READING:
Mark 4:37-38

Have you ever been in a car accident or had some other kind of emergency? Usually, when something like that happens, the first thing you do is try to get help. The disciples were in an emergency! What would they do?

MARK 4:37-38 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"



THINK ABOUT IT!

It's amazing that Jesus could sleep through that terrible storm! The disciples certainly weren't sleeping! What was the first thing the Bible tells you they did?

What question did the disciples ask Jesus when they woke Him up?

Did Jesus care if they drowned? Of course! He loved them and was concerned about what happened to them. Jesus loves you, too. If you know Him as your Savior, He is always there ready to help you. He is God the Son. Think about your memory verse. How can you know God will help when you call on Him?

When you are afraid, call on God for help. He is your refuge and strength. God has promised and He always keeps His promises!



PRAY

Thank God that He is always with you
and you can call on Him for help.



DAILY READING:
Mark 4:37-39

Hurricane winds destroy buildings!

“Tornado flattens town!” “Volcano erupts, burying village!” The power of nature is amazing—but there is a power far greater than nature!

MARK 4:37-39 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus wasn’t afraid of the storm! What did He do when the disciples woke Him up?

It may seem strange that someone can command the wind and waves! It is even more amazing that they will obey! Why do you think the wind and waves obeyed Jesus when He spoke to them?

Jesus’ power as God the Son is far greater than nature. In fact, Jesus created the world and everything in it. The wind and waves had no choice but to obey Him! With that kind of power, Jesus can surely take care of you no matter what! What do you think will happen if you stop thinking about your problems and start thinking about God’s power to care for you instead?

Tell God about a problem you have. Then trust His power to take care of it.



PRAY

Praise God that He has the power to help you in any situation.



DAILY READING:
Mark 4:37-40

Some people like to brag about their bravery. However, when danger comes, they may not be as brave as they think! How brave were the disciples in the storm?

MARK 4:39-40 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?"



THINK ABOUT IT!

The danger had passed. The Lord Jesus had stopped the storm. What did Jesus ask the disciples?

It was natural for the disciples to be afraid but they had seen Jesus do miracles. What should they have done when they were afraid?

The disciples didn't understand that God's power was right there with them in Jesus. What is the first thing you do when you are afraid? Do you try to solve the problem yourself or find other people to help? In Matthew 28:20 Jesus says, "I am with you always." What can you do to show your faith in Him when you are afraid?

God may use others or you to solve a problem but He wants you to look to Him first when you're afraid. He can give you peace.



PRAY

Ask God to help you depend on Him first for help.



DAILY READING:
Mark 4:41

Maybe you have watched someone do magic tricks. You know they are just tricks but you're still amazed. The disciples had been amazed at some of the things Jesus did. These weren't tricks though. Jesus' miracles were God's power on display.

MARK 4:39, 41 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm... ⁴¹And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"



THINK ABOUT IT!

What surprised the disciples so much?

No man would be able to make the wind and waves obey him! Why do you think the disciples were terrified?

The disciples didn't quite understand yet that Jesus was God the Son. The power of this man they called teacher still astounded them. Their faith in Him was still growing. Your faith in your powerful God needs to grow, too.

Whenever you are afraid, remember Psalm 46:1: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Tell God about your fear and ask Him to help you trust His power. What will happen to your fear when you trust in God and call on Him?



PRAY

Praise God for His wonderful peace that can replace your fear.



DAILY READING:
John 11:1-6

How do you feel when things go wrong? Maybe you wonder, “If God loves me so much, why did He let that happen?” Two women in the Bible must have felt that way.

JOHN 11:1, 3-4 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha...³So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”



THINK ABOUT IT!

The names of the two women were _____ and _____. Where did you meet these sisters before? (Read Luke 10:38-42 if you can't remember.)

The sisters sent a message to Jesus. What did they say about their brother Lazarus?

In verse four what reason did the Lord Jesus give that Lazarus was sick?

Jesus knew what would happen to Lazarus. However, Jesus stayed where He was because He knew God would use this to show the people His power. This was God's plan but Mary and Martha didn't know it. They had to wait. Often that's what you need to do. Be strong and wait for the Lord to do whatever He wants to do.



PRAY

Tell God you will trust Him no matter what.



DAILY READING:
John 11:6-10

Do you understand everything you read in the Bible? God has given you the Holy Spirit to help you. Sometimes you read verses and wonder what the words mean. In this story the disciples were having trouble understanding what Jesus was saying and doing.

JOHN 11:6-8 So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"



THINK ABOUT IT!

Jesus waited two days after hearing that Lazarus was sick. Then what did Jesus say they were going to do?

Why were the disciples afraid to go back to Judea?

Some of the people in Judea wanted to kill Jesus with stones. Why do you think Jesus wasn't afraid He would be killed?

No one could take the life of God the Son until it was the right time. Jesus knew it wasn't yet God's time for Him to die. He could safely go to Judea. Jesus knows everything. You can calmly wait for Him to show you His plan.



PRAY

Ask God to help you wait for Him to work.



DAILY READING:
John 11:11-16

When you are sick, you may have trouble sleeping. A fever makes you feel hot. You may shiver with chills. If only you could rest, you would feel better. When Jesus told the disciples Lazarus was sleeping, they thought, “Great! He’s getting well!” Then Jesus explained what He meant by “sleep.”

JOHN 11:11, 14-16 ...“Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him...¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died,¹⁵and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”¹⁶So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”



THINK ABOUT IT!

When Jesus told the disciples Lazarus was asleep, what did He say He would go and do?

In verse 15 why did Jesus tell the disciples He was glad He hadn’t been there when Lazarus had died?

Jesus had a plan, one that would help people believe He truly is God the Son. If Lazarus had not died, people could think medicine cured him or that he wasn’t as sick as they thought. Because Lazarus died, only God could change what had happened. What brave thing did Thomas say?

Thomas may not have understood what Jesus was doing but he was willing to trust Him. You can do the same, even when you don’t understand what God is doing in your life.



PRAY

Ask God to help you follow His perfect plan.



DAILY READING:
Read John 11:17-27

Do you believe God can do anything? God spoke and the world was made. Jesus touched a blind man's eyes and he could see. Amazing! Did Martha and Mary believe Jesus could still help Lazarus?

JOHN 11:20-22, 25-26 Martha...went and met him...²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you..." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"



THINK ABOUT IT!

When Jesus arrived, Lazarus had been dead four days. What did Martha do when she heard Jesus was almost there?

In verse 22 what did Martha say that showed she believed God is all-powerful?

Martha said this before the Lord Jesus told her that her brother would rise again. In verse 26 what did Jesus say would happen to those who believe in Him?

If Jesus is your Savior, when your life on Earth is over, your new life in Heaven will begin. You will see Jesus! You will meet people like Martha, Mary and Lazarus. You will worship God with all your heart. Until it's time for you to go to Heaven, wait patiently for God to work out the problems in your life.



PRAY

Tell God you look forward to going to Heaven someday.



DAILY READING:
John 11:28-37

Suppose there was a bad accident and several of your friends died. Even if they were Christians and you knew they were all in Heaven, you would still feel sad. You might cry and wonder why God didn't stop the accident from happening. That is how Martha and Mary felt about the death of Lazarus. How did Jesus feel?

JOHN 11:31-32, 34-35 When the Jews...saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²Now 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..." ³⁴And he [Jesus] said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus wept.



THINK ABOUT IT!

When Mary left the house to meet Jesus, where did her friends think she was going?

How do you know Mary believed Jesus could have kept Lazarus alive?

How does it help you to know that the Lord Jesus cried?

Remember that Jesus is God the Son and He never sinned. Crying when someone dies or just because you are sad is not wrong. Jesus did it! You may never learn why God allowed a bad accident to happen or why someone you loved had to die. But even when you don't understand, you can still trust God.



PRAY

Ask God to give you the faith to trust Him when you feel sad.



DAILY READING:
John 11:38-44

When things go wrong, you may feel there is no hope and want to give up. No matter how bad it looks, God knows what is happening. He loves you and has a good plan. When Lazarus died, Jesus had a good plan.

JOHN 11:39, 41-44 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha... said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days..."⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me."⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this...that they may believe that you sent me."⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."⁴⁴The man who had died came out...



THINK ABOUT IT!

Why did Martha question Jesus' plan to open the place where Lazarus was buried?

Jesus did not ask God the Father to bring Lazarus back to life. He knew that was going to happen. He thanked God for it. Jesus prayed aloud because He wanted the people who were listening to believe God had sent Him.

Think of three words that might describe how people felt when Lazarus came out of the tomb.

You would have been amazed to watch this happen. Always remember that God can do anything. When you wait and wait, don't lose hope. God may surprise you. He certainly surprised Mary and Martha!



PRAY

Ask God to give you hope when things seem hopeless.