

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. What is one practical thing that you can apply from this series?

2. What impossible thing are you believing God for?

3. What things in your life initially looked like delays but actually turned out to be a blessing? How will this lesson help you in making decisions in the future?

4. What do you commit to do to be more positive? Find a way to encourage a family member or friend.

PRAYER

On the space provide below, record prayer requests and answered prayers. Pray for one another.



EASTER SUNDAY

WARM-UP

1. Are you more of a positive person or a negative person?

2. How do you respond to tough situations? Do you easily get discouraged or do you rise to the occasion when needed?



"I am the Ressurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die.

John 11:25

When He had said this, He shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" Out came the man who had been dead, his hands and feet *tightly* wrapped in burial cloths (linen strips), and with a [burial] cloth wrapped around his face. Jesus said to them, "Unwrap him and release him."

John 11:43-44

The story of Lazarus exemplified power of God over death. Jesus purposefully stayed away for four days after Lazarus' death. The Jews believed the soul hovered around the body for three days during which there was still hope. After four days, all hope was gone.

Tough times and situations in life happens to us all. We can easily lose hope. Many times, we feel, our situation is impossible and that there are no solutions to them. However, what is impossible for men, is possible with God.

The following are points we can learn from the series:

1. Dead in Doubt (Thomas)

Thomas, who was called Didymus was very sarcastic. He said, "Let us go too, that we may die with Him". This happened when Jesus decided to go back to Judea where they can be stoned to death. Thomas was a doubter. He sees the worst in all situations. He lives a life that is dead in doubts. What causes doubts?

Are you a doubter? How can you overcome doubts and worries?

3. Dead in Discouragement (Mary)

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

John 11:20

Mary, after Jesus was coming was so discouraged and hopeless, she decided to just stay home. Mary may be thinking that all is lost anyway. Lazarus is dead and it's too late. Have you ever felt discouraged and hopeless? Tell us of a situation that led you to be discouraged? How can you win when you have a big hurdle in front of you?

4. Dead in Delay (Martha)

God is always perfect in His timing. What we think are "delays" in our own personal lives, is actually still the right timing if done according to His will. Do you sometimes feel that God is late in doing things? Do you sometimes find yourself trying to make things happen in your own strength?

Have you sometimes manipulated the situation to take short cuts even though you know it is not right? When do you know it is God's perfect timing? Give us examples of things that you consider "delays."
