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REVIEW:

- I AM THAT I AM (Exodus 3:6-15) The father or Abraham, Isaac & Jacob - Jesus is I AM (John 8:54-58)
- I AM the Bread of life, Light of the world, the Door, the and the Good Shepherd

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE: JOHN 11:1-45

John 11:1-7 (NIV) - 1Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2(This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) 3So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."
4When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." 5Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, 7and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

John 11:11-16 (NIV) - 11After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." 12His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." 13Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. 14So then he told them plainly, "**Lazarus is dead, 15and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe.** But let us go to him." 16Then Thomas said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

John 11:20-28 (NIV) - 20When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. 21"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "**if you had been here, my brother would not have died.** 22But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." 23Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." 25Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.** Do you believe this?" 27"Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

John 11:32-45 (NIV) - 32When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "**Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.**" 33When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 34"Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. **35Jesus wept.** 36Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" 38Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39"Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." 40Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" 41So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, **but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.**" 43When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go." 45Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

OBSERVATIONS:

1. DEATH DOES NOT END IN DEATH (v.4)
2. FOR GOD'S GLORY (v.4)
3. ASLEEP OR DEAD? (v.11-14)
4. SO YOU MAY BELIEVE (v.15&42)
5. EYES THAT DO NOT SEE – THOMAS (v.16)
6. IF YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN HERE GOD THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED (v.21&32)
7. I AM THE RESURRECTION & THE LIFE (v.25&26)
8. WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? (v.27)
9. JESUS WEPT (v.35)
10. COULDN'T THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED? (v.37)
11. LOVED OR LATE? (v.36&37)
12. HE STINKETH (v.39)
13. FOR OUR BENEFIT AND BELIEF (v.42)
14. TAKE OFF THE GRAVE CLOTHES (v.44)
15. BACK TO LIFE TO DIE AGAIN (**John 12:9-11**)

QUESTIONS:

- Jesus claims that those who live by believing in him will never die. What do you believe about that statement?
- In this story Jesus shows that things happen – both apparently good and apparently bad – in order that we may have an opportunity to believe in him. Can you recall a time in which this has been true in your life? Share this with someone.
- Both Mary and Martha claimed that if God were present the loss of Lazarus wouldn't have happened. We see that God was present just not in the way they expected. How does this truth change the way you think about times when it felt like God wasn't there?
- Some people in this story see how Jesus loved and some see how he didn't do enough. In difficulty to you tend to see how God loves or what he didn't do? Share this.