

EASTER: AWAITING THE REURRECTIONSmall Group Discussion Guide // April 1, 2018

Prior to meeting with your group, please read John 11:1-44.

- 1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that challenged, intrigued, surprised, bothered, confused, or was new to you?
- 2. On Sunday we were shown, through the story of Lazarus' death, that with God, a waiting season is never a waisted season. Waiting is hard. We can get frustrated that God doesn't answer our prayers as quickly as we would like. Prayer is not about getting our way, but rather, it's about surrendering our will to God.
 - Why is it so important for us to surrender our will to God? How should our prayers reflect that?
 - Have you ever seen God answer prayers in a way that exceeds your expectations? How might God be asking you to use a season of waiting to surrender your will to Him?
- 3. The story of Lazarus shows us that with God, a <u>painful</u> season brings about God's <u>perfect</u> purpose. It is through our intimacy with God, either individually or corporately, that produces faith. (Romans 5:3-5)
 - How has God used a painful season to bring about His perfect purpose in your life? Is God leading you through a painful season right now? How is it making you more like Christ?
- 4. As we celebrate Easter, the greatest victory on earth, we must remember that it came on the heels of a great struggle. We learned today that even though the <u>struggle</u> may be great, the <u>victory</u> shall be greater! (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)
 - What does God's victory over sin mean for you? How should that affect the way you live?
- 5. What is one thing you need to remember or act on this week as a result of this teaching and study? What accountability do you need to ensure action?

