

Lesson # 37



5-16-2021
LEADER GUIDE

LAZARUS

JOHN 11:1-44

GOAL

To help children to understand that God is all-powerful, including the ability to bring dead people back to life!

CHARACTERS

Jesus: After learning that His friend Lazarus had died, Jesus raised him from the dead.

Lazarus: Jesus' friend who became sick and died. Jesus raised him from the dead.

Mary and Martha: Friends of Jesus' and sisters of Lazarus. They asked Jesus to come heal their brother.

MEMORY VERSE

John 11:25-26: Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."

OVERVIEW

Read John 11:1-44: One day, Jesus' friend Lazarus got sick. Instead of rushing to heal him, Jesus waited. After Jesus learned that Lazarus had died, He went to visit the mourning family. When He arrived, Lazarus had been dead for four days. Jesus went out to Lazarus' tomb, had the stone rolled away, prayed, and then called for His friend to come out of the tomb. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.

MEMORY VERSE MEANING

John 11:25-26: Someday, our lives on Earth will come to an end. Everyone dies, but everyone who believes in Jesus gets to live forever in heaven.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: Besides healing, feeding, and teaching people, what did Jesus do during His ministry?

A1: He rested and spent time with friends.

Q1b: Do you enjoy spending time with a particular person or group of people?

TN: Every aspect of Jesus' life is meant to serve as an example of how we are to live our lives. Here, Jesus is showing us how important it is to have friends and spend time with them.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: Who did Jesus learn had become ill?

A2: Lazarus

Q2b: Have you ever visited a sick friend or relative in the hospital?

TN: In such situations, we often feel helpless and awkward. Even though such visits may feel uncomfortable for us, we should remember that being very sick can be scary. Visiting our loved ones gives them encouragement. Knowing that someone cares and is praying for them can be as helpful as medicine.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: What didn't the disciples understand?

A3: That Jesus was more powerful than death, and He could raise Lazarus from the dead.

Q3b: Would you believe a friend's claim that she could run a mile in under a minute?

TN: That's a pretty big claim. Most of us would want to see it to believe it. The same is true for Jesus' disciples and the people living at this time. While many people had seen Jesus heal people, He had never brought anyone back from the dead. To our human minds, something like this is impossible; therefore, we rarely think to hope for such a miracle. We are limited by our imaginations and understanding of life and nature, but God can do much more than we can think or imagine. Jesus knew that He could bring Lazarus back to life. This display of power convinced even more people to believe that Jesus was the Messiah.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: When Jesus arrived, how long had Lazarus been dead?

A4: Four days

Q4b: Why didn't Jesus heal Lazarus and prevent him and his loved ones from suffering?

TN: God is all-knowing and all-powerful, which means He knows of our suffering and is completely capable of preventing or ending it. Unfortunately, knowing and loving God does not make us immune to bad things in this world. Christians get sick. Christians face hardships. Christians die. Jesus tells us in John 16:33 that in this life we will face suffering and tribulations. However, just as we can count on experiencing suffering during our lives, we also can count on God's eternal love for us and a promise found in Romans 8:28: "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." While we don't understand why bad things happen to us, we can rely on God to make something wonderful happen because that bad thing occurred. Allowing Lazarus to die was very sad, but it provided Jesus with an opportunity to glorify God by showing His power and revealing that He was the Son of God.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: What did Jesus command when standing outside of Lazarus' tomb?

A5: He commanded that the stone be rolled away from the tomb.

SLIDE 6



Q6a: What did Jesus shout after He finished praying?

A6: Jesus said, "Lazarus, come out!"

Q6b: Have you ever not gotten something you really wanted?

TN: Mary and Martha really wanted Jesus to heal their brother, but they didn't get that. Instead, they got to see the magnificent power of God bring their brother back to life. Sometimes we pray for things that we want, but we don't understand that what we want isn't the best possible thing for us. God knows what is best for us. So when we pray for something and it doesn't happen, it doesn't mean that God isn't listening or that He doesn't care, it means God has better plans for us.

SLIDE 7



Q7a: What was the result of this miracle?

A7: Lazarus was brought back from the dead and many people believed in Jesus because of what He did.



**MEMORY
VERSE**

▶ **John 11:25-26:** Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."

BIG IDEA

▶ If we believe in Jesus, we will live forever in heaven with Him.

**CLOSING
PRAYER**

▶ Dear God, Your power is so amazing that You made dead people come back to life! Thank You for comforting us through times of trouble and sorrow. Please help us to glorify you through the stormy seasons of our lives. We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

LAZARUS

CROSSWORD

ANSWER KEY

Across

2. How many days had Lazarus been dead by the time Jesus arrived at his house? (**Four**)
5. What town did Lazarus live in? (**Bethany**)
7. Jesus commanded at Lazarus's tomb, "Take the (**Stone**) away!"
9. Jesus gave Lazarus (**Life**) again

Down

1. Lazarus was Martha and Mary's (**Brother**).
3. Three of Jesus's closest friends were (**Mary**), Martha and Lazarus.
4. Who was upset that Jesus hadn't arrived before Lazarus had died? (**Martha**)
6. When Lazarus became sick, Mary and Martha hoped Jesus would (**Heal**) him.
8. When Jesus arrived at Lazarus's tomb, he showed his feelings and (**Wept**).

LAZARUS

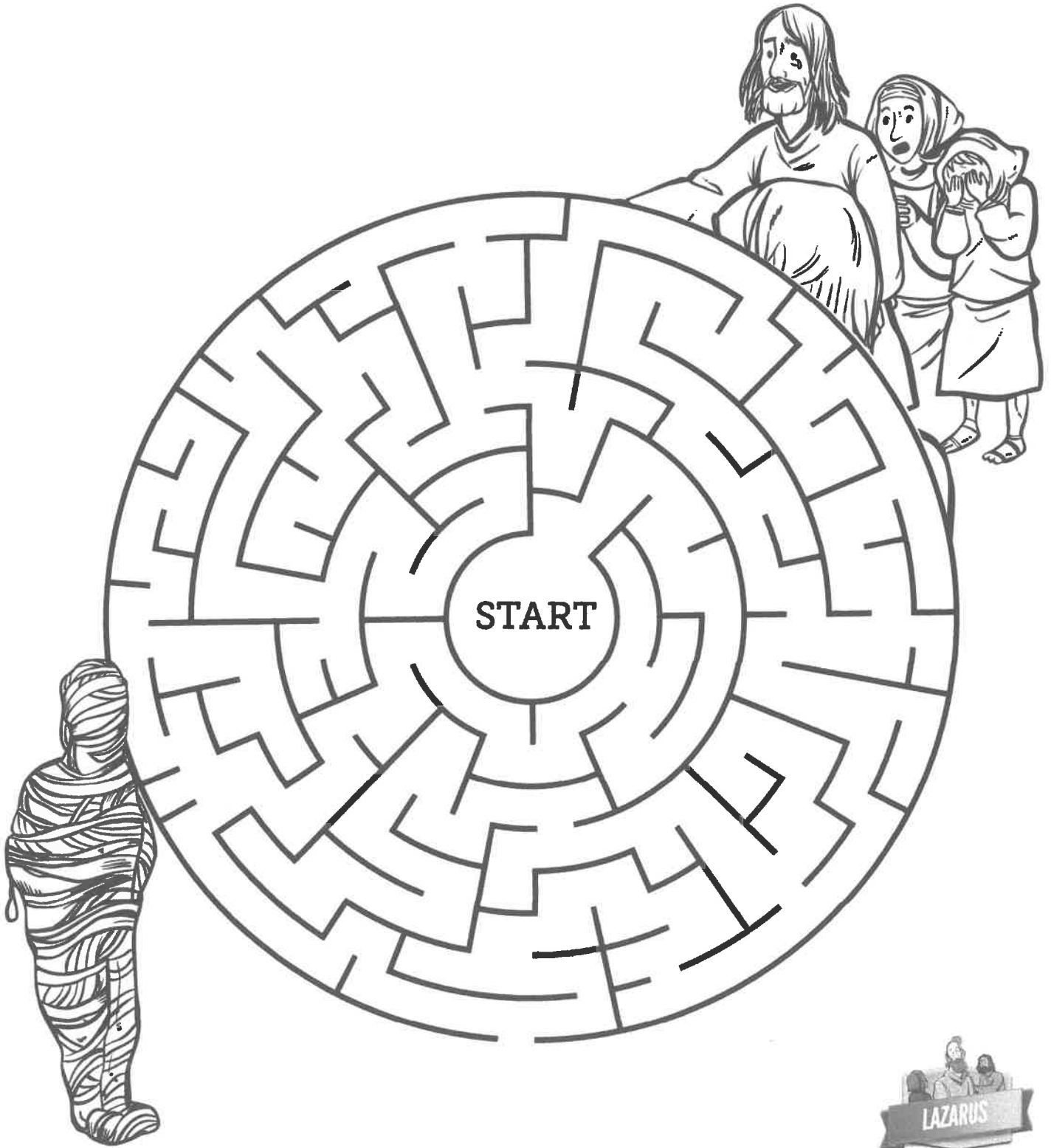
John 11:25–26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."



LAZARUS

Jesus brings Lazarus back to life!



LAZARUS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.





LAZARUS



Discover the hidden words.

B	M	C	Y	X	H	M	F	X	Y	R	F	E	C	N
B	E	A	P	S	U	Y	B	R	G	E	M	B	J	S
M	I	T	R	B	E	B	A	H	L	H	I	U	P	F
O	F	X	H	T	D	M	G	J	W	T	F	E	I	B
T	R	D	W	A	H	Q	Y	E	J	O	K	X	M	J
W	G	S	H	P	N	A	R	V	S	R	Y	A	U	Z
Z	G	H	U	Z	Y	Y	R	U	Y	B	R	A	O	S
M	J	E	M	S	D	E	A	T	H	H	C	V	K	Y
E	U	A	C	C	E	Q	Y	R	L	C	J	B	S	X
E	U	L	V	M	W	J	N	W	K	V	U	A	A	G
I	K	I	H	O	I	D	E	E	X	R	D	B	W	P
L	K	N	B	T	C	N	W	P	Z	M	E	J	G	S
Z	D	G	V	M	Z	D	W	T	N	V	Z	Q	P	S
F	L	I	F	E	L	A	Z	A	R	U	S	Q	C	B
W	N	U	D	R	O	V	X	U	Z	C	K	O	D	Q

Word Bank

BETHANY
 LAZARUS
 JESUS
 LIFE

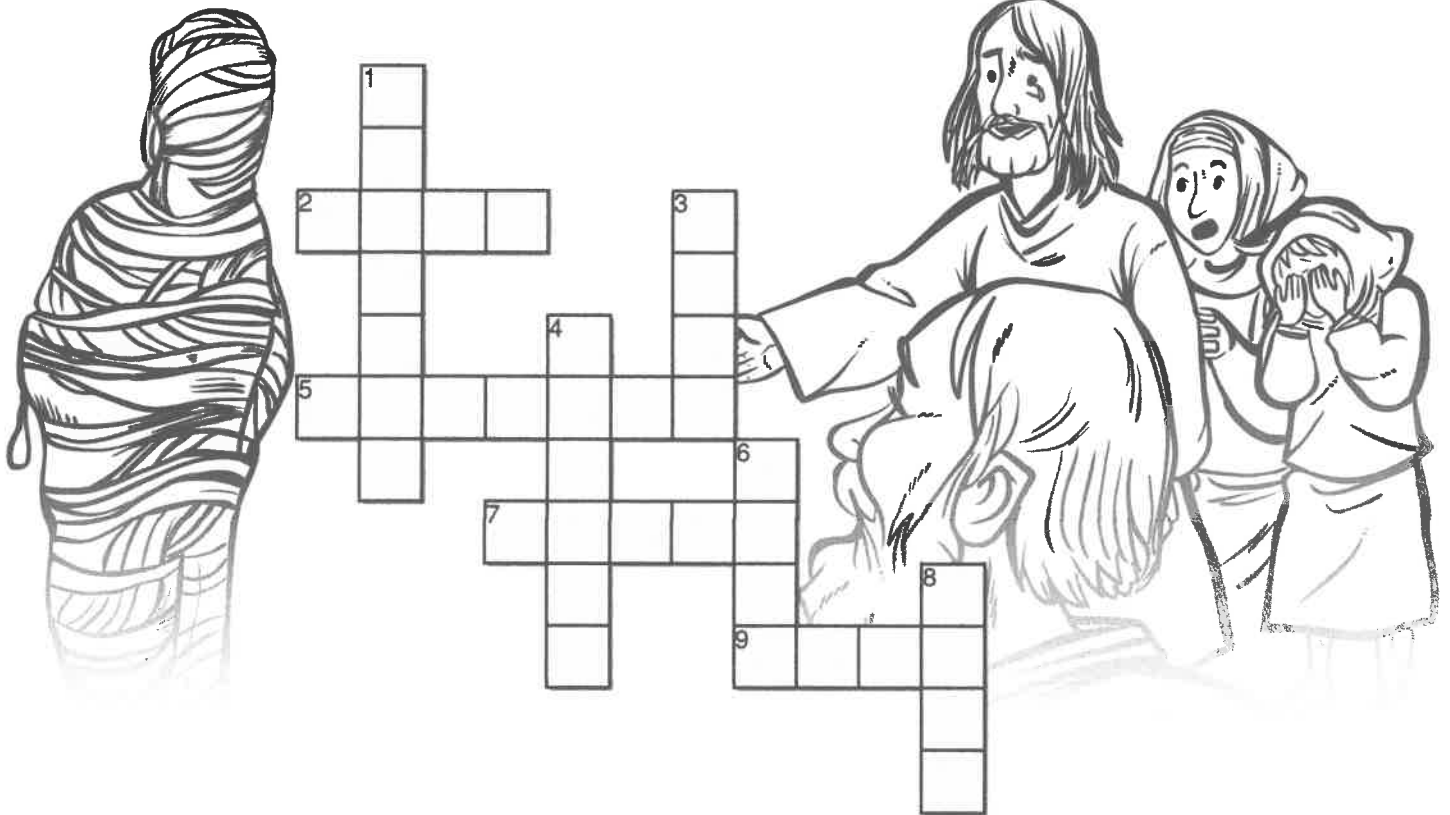
DEATH
 MARY
 MARTHA
 BROTHER

HEALING
 WEPT
 TOMB
 SAD



LAZARUS

John 11:1-44



Across

2. How many days had Lazarus been dead by the time Jesus arrived at his house?
5. What town did Lazarus live in?
7. Jesus commanded at Lazarus's tomb, "Take the _____ away!"
9. Jesus gave Lazarus _____ again

Down

1. Lazarus was Martha and Mary's _____.
3. Three of Jesus's closest friends were _____, Martha and Lazarus.
4. Who was upset that Jesus hadn't arrived before Lazarus had died?
6. When Lazarus became sick, Mary and Martha hoped Jesus would _____ him.
8. When Jesus arrived at Lazarus's tomb, he showed his feelings and _____.



Jesus Comforts Lazarus' Sisters

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.



"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my _____ would not have _____. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will _____ again."

Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the _____ and the _____. He who _____ in me will _____, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will _____ die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the _____ of _____, who was to come into the world."

John 11:21-27 (NIV)

believes
brother

died
God

life
live

never
resurrection

rise
Son

