



a Kendall Hunt Company

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A

Submitted by lectionaryadmin on Tue, 02/18/2014 - 19:00

Lectionary: 34

Read Sunday's Gospel: [John 11:1-45](#)

Gospel Summary

In this Gospel, John tells the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. The story is significant because it is likely that his action was his last miracle before Jesus began the journey toward his own death. Jesus was called to Bethany to save his friend, but instead waited several days to return. This action confused Lazarus' sisters, Mary and Martha, because they knew that Jesus could have healed their brother. Jesus used the incident to strengthen the faith of Mary, Martha, and all who believed. He made sure that Lazarus was raised from death so that the people could witness God's glory.

Reflection for Families

The healing power of Jesus brings new life to all of us. Are there some things in our lives that cause us to die to others? Perhaps we are impatient, ungrateful, critical, or quick to anger. Maybe we're proud, boastful, or envious. Jesus promises us new life if we trust in him and allow our actions to follow his ways.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

If there are members of your extended family who have died, share with one another what this passage might mean for them. What hope does the reading give us for ourselves and for our loved ones? How does new life that we can see this spring help us know what Jesus promised? As you did last week, bring some symbols of God's promise to your prayer table.

Discussion Starters

1. The best example I saw of the new life Jesus promises was...
2. Like Mary and Martha, my faith was strengthened when...
3. This story brings me hope because...

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At Home Family Guide, theme 26

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Junior High, Church and Sacraments, chapter 6

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