



# Encounter



## Key Message

Jesus cries with us during our suffering. He is fully God and fully human.



## Intro Questions

- What are your thoughts on suffering? Why does it happen?
- Have you ever prayed for something and you didn't seem to get an answer? Does this put us off praying?
- Have you ever witnessed any Miracles?

## Bible Story - John 11:17-36

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. When 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." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

## Questions

- How does Jesus respond to Martha saying "if you had been here, my brother would not have died."?
- How is his response different to what Mary says to him?
- Think about "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died" How can it seem like God isn't answering our prayers when we're crying out to him? What do you think to God's timing?
- What is so amazing about this passage? Do you believe Jesus' claims?



## Bible Story - John 11:38 - 44

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days." Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I 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." When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The 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."

## Questions

- Why do you think Jesus is moved deeply? Why do you think Jesus cried even though He knew He was gonna raise Lazarus.
- Why doesn't God just stop all suffering?
- What does this whole story tell you about Jesus?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus can raise people from the dead? How does this change your prayer life knowing Jesus can raise people?



## Pray

Spend time praying with each young person.



Can you post anything on Facebook about what you've learnt today?



Can you post a picture on insta representing what you've done today?



Can you post anything on Snapchat about what you've learnt today?