

FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

John 11:1–16

Main Thought

Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, so he stayed two more days. His delays are never the absence of his love, and he calls us to follow him toward what we don't yet understand.

1. Jesus' Delay Is Never the Absence of His Love (vv. 1–6) The sisters didn't ask Jesus to come. They just leaned on his love. And John says Jesus loved them, so he stayed. The waiting came out of the love, not in spite of it. <i>"Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was." (vv. 5–6)</i>	2. We Walk in the Light We're Given, Not the Dark We Fear (vv. 7–10) The disciples saw rocks waiting in Judea. Jesus saw the Father's work. Fear didn't set his schedule, and it doesn't have to set ours. He lights up the next step, not the whole road. <i>"If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world." (v. 9)</i>
3. Real Faith Follows Jesus Before It Understands Him (vv. 11–16) Jesus said it plainly: Lazarus is dead. Thomas didn't understand and figured the trip would cost him everything, but he went anyway. You follow first, and the understanding comes along the road. <i>"And for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." (v. 15)</i>	Key Scriptures <i>"This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God." John 11:4</i> <i>"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness." John 8:12</i> <i>"My Lord and my God!" John 20:28</i>

Where am I reading Jesus' silence as proof that he doesn't care?

What is Jesus asking me to walk toward this week that fear keeps telling me to avoid?

"Lord, he whom you love is ill." (John 11:3)

You don't have to build a case. Just tell him who's hurting.