

IF YOU HAD BEEN HERE

John 11:17–27

Main Thought

Martha believed in the resurrection, but she had filed it away for someday. Jesus doesn't just promise the resurrection. He is the resurrection, here and now, in the middle of our worst day.

1. We Can Bring Jesus Our Disappointment and Our Hope in the Same Breath (vv. 17–22) Martha told Jesus the truth: “if you had been here.” Then she said “even now.” Jesus never corrected her. We can bring him the hurt and the trust in the same breath. <i>“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” (v. 21)</i>	2. A Hope We Keep Filed Away for Someday Can't Reach Today's Grief (vv. 23–24) Martha's answer was right. Her brother would rise on the last day. But she had put her best hope in the cabinet, saved for company. A true hope stored in the wrong place can't reach a Tuesday. <i>“I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” (v. 24)</i>
3. Jesus Doesn't Just Promise the Resurrection, He Is the Resurrection (vv. 25–27) Jesus didn't correct her theology. He put a name on it. The last day has a person attached to it, and he was standing right in front of her. Martha answered with who he is. <i>“I am the resurrection and the life.” (v. 25)</i>	Key Scriptures <i>“I am the resurrection and the life.” John 11:25</i> <i>“...and I will raise him up on the last day.” John 6:40</i> <i>“But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.” Psalm 13:5</i>

Where have I filed my best hope away for someday instead of bringing it to Jesus today?

What would I say to Jesus right now if I told him the whole truth, the hurt and the trust together?

“Do you believe this?” (John 11:26)

He's here. He's near. And he isn't going anywhere.