

God Knows

Today's story reminds us that God is always working in our lives, even when we don't understand what is happening.

Read John 11:1-45. This story is filled with a lot of different things that are happening. It's like reading a story where there are many hard things that happen, but in the end there's a happy ending.

When have you ever felt sad or like something was really difficult for you?

Lazarus' sisters, his friends and even Jesus had a very difficult time dealing with the death of their brother and friend. In John 11:6 we see that Jesus knew his friend Lazarus was very sick and Jesus stayed where he was for 2 more days. Couldn't Jesus have healed his friend? Why would Jesus let Lazarus die? Why don't you think that Jesus went away to where Lazarus was sooner?

We sometimes ask questions like these when we face really difficult times. Be encouraged though as we see later in the story in John 11; Jesus knows and He had something far better planned!

In the next section of the story (John 11:17-27) find where we see Martha and Mary's response. Write it in the box below.

Lazarus' sisters seemed frustrated that Jesus didn't come to save their brother; yet they trusted Him. They still believed in Jesus and His promises, even though they did not know what would happen.

Can you trust God? Absolutely! You can trust God completely, just like Mary and Martha. We can trust God because we see through the man of Jesus all of the emotions that we experience.

Read: John 11:32-37 and imagine what He was feeling in the story. Write down the emotions you think he may have felt.

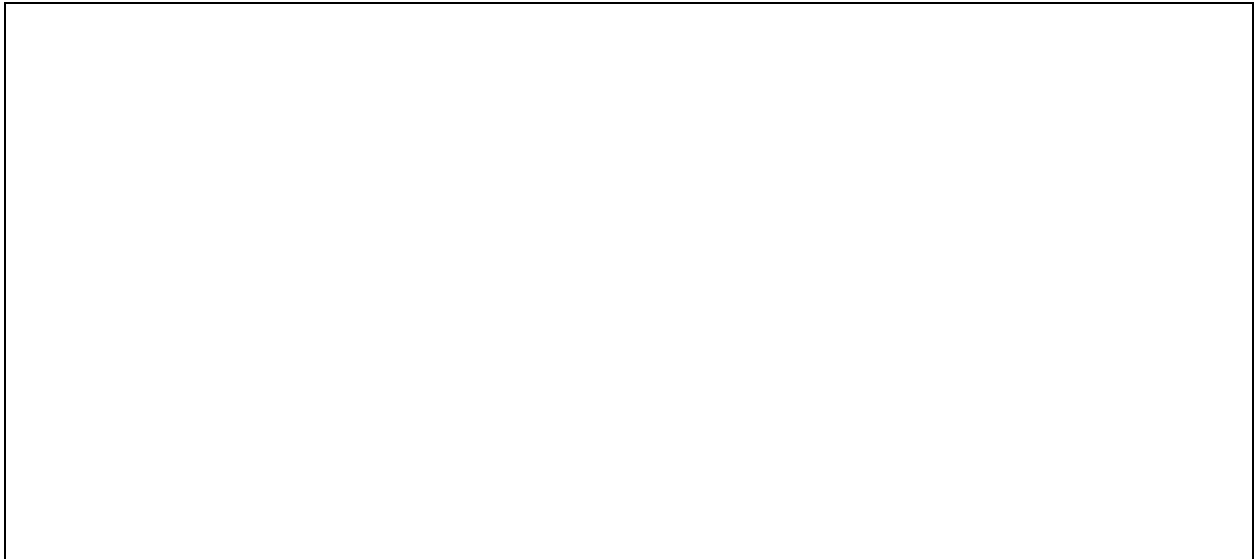
We see that Jesus experienced being deeply moved (angered), He was troubled (agitated) and He grieved (sadness). Knowing that Jesus experienced all of these emotions we know that God understands our emotions and how each of you are feeling at all times.

We trust in God, because He knows us, our thoughts, our emotions and He is still with us and loves us no matter what we are feeling.

We're going to read on in John 11 to see the happy ending and the miracle that Jesus performed.

Read: John 11:38. Where did Jesus go?

It had been 4 days since Lazarus had died and his body laid in his tomb. But Jesus commands that the stone be moved away from the tomb. After the stone was moved away and Jesus called, "Lazarus, come out!" (John 11:43) draw a picture below of what happened.



Who else do we know that died, was buried in a tomb and was resurrected from the grave?

Our lives may be challenging and hard at times. But God is going to work all things together for good and for His glory. We can believe and trust God because He is in control.