May 18, 2025 WEEK 11: INDESTRUCTIBLE HOPE

Pastor: Ed Kelley Series: The One Scripture: John 11:1-57

WEEK 11: Indestructible Hope

Read: John Chapter 11

King Jesus defeats death, our formidable foe. The story in this chapter is complex, beginning with God's timing. Jesus arrives on the scene much later than desired by Lazarus' sisters. They expected an earlier entrance and a healing story. Instead, Jesus waited until after Lazarus died, which resulted in greater glory to God. Jesus brings a hope greater than our challenges that travels beyond the grave. Jesus wept with the mourners, felt the pain of loss, and entered in emotionally to the time of grieving. God does His greatest work in the darkest moments. Do not let your heart be troubled. Continue to trust God. Jesus walks over to the grave after Lazarus had been dead for many days. Jesus called forth, and with His voice, Lazarus came back to life. This passage reminds us of the creation story in the book of Genesis and the power of God's word. This miracle is a foreshadowing of the death and resurrection of Jesus. When you know how the story ends, it changes the way you endure hardships. Let the infinite hope of Jesus flood your soul during these light and momentary difficulties. God's power and perspective are triumphant, not defeated.

Hope Point: Jesus is victorious over death.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. How do we have hope and glorify God in the most difficult moments? (John 11:1-16)
- 2. How does eternal truth comfort us? (John 11:17-27)
- 3. What is the significance of Jesus weeping? (John 11:28-37)
- 4. What does this miracle teach us? (John 11:38-44)
- 5. Why are some people against Jesus? (John 11:45-57)

Who can you share this Scripture with during the upcoming week?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for all of the ways You pull us out of despair. You are the lifter of our heads and give us a firm place to stand. You rejoice over us with singing, and our hearts are filled with Your truth. Thank You for Your comfort when we grieve. Your timing is impeccable. Your wisdom teaches us daily how to live. Jesus, You are our risen Savior. Death is defeated. You reign, and we will be with You forever. In Your wonderful name we pray, amen.