Small Group Discussion Guide

"At the Movies" (pt. 4) - 10/05/2014

Scripture: John 11:1-44

Bottom Line: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

INTRODUCTION/ICEBREAKER:

Adam shared a story about hurting himself when he raced his bike as a child. Go around the room and let everyone share the funniest/craziest thing they did when they were a kid. What is the, "I can't believe we did that," moment from your childhood?

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

1) Lazarus, his family, and his friends suffered during his death. We've all suffered and endured times of great anguish. How do you remind yourself of God's promises in the midst of suffering?

Remind yourself - God's loving character doesn't change based on our circumstances or our ability to feel His presence. He's always there. He sympathizes with us and He is powerful enough to do anything.

2) Lazarus' death and suffering had a greater good. Ultimately, it has brought glory to God for the past 2 thousand years. How can our suffering bring glory to God? Who have you been able to help or relate to because you went through the very same thing?

Remind yourself - Look back to see God working for His glory and our good by looking at your past sufferings. Remember His faithfulness.

3) What does Jesus mean by saying, "I am the resurrection"? Why is that important?

Remind yourself - Many people make claims, but there's only one who resurrected himself from the grave. Because of the resurrection we can trust Jesus and know that he is far bigger and more powerful than any suffering we may be enduring.

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

- 1) Take time to ask if anyone in your group is currently suffering. Stop and pray specifically for them.
- 2) Move towards people who are hurting the way you've hurt in the past.
- 3) Remind yourself to fix your hope on eternal resurrection and not temporary relief.