

1st May 2022



Our 4th Year: The Pandemic Period



The 4th Year of the Household of Faith was completely overtaken by the pandemic. We were not allowed to rent an auditorium to meet and to resort to using my office at Pasir Panjang Church of Christ. Despite many restrictions, it was a blessing to be able to continue to conduct live streaming for the congregation.

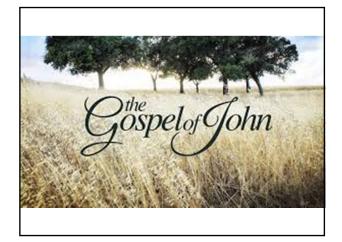
Although members were finding it difficult to keep up their faith, some wondering what the future of the HoF would be, we are thankful to see a core of members staying faithful as we try our best to keep in touch and continue with weekly worship.

Below: We are thankful to the PPCoC for permitting us to use the space right up till it was time to turn it over to the contractors for rebuilding.





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Introduction

Completed series on OT books of poetry

Timely to return to New Testament

Already completed Epistle of 1 John

8 lessons on...





Writer

John, the son of Zebedee

He and his brother James are called the "Sons of Thunder"

Of the 12 disciples, John, James, and Peter were chosen by Jesus to become his closest companions

John refers to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved."





Gospel

He writes with simplicity in the original Greek

A good book for seekers and new converts

John's is the only one of the four gospels not considered among the Synoptic Gospels



Theme and Purpose

Introduction Writer Gospel John 20:30-31 Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name.

Jesus is the long-awaited, promised Messiah and Son of God.

By believing in Jesus, people have eternal life



Introduction Writer Gospel Theme and Purpose

Outline

Prologue: The Word Became Flesh (1:1–18)

The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry (1:19–51) Jesus' Public Ministry (2–11)

The Passion Week (12-18)

Jesus' Crucifixion (19:1–27) Jesus' Death and Burial (19:28–42) Jesus' Resurrection (20:1–31)

Epilogue: Jesus' Great Commission (21)



Introduction Writer Gospel Theme and Purpose Outline

7 "I am's"

"I am the bread of life." (6:35)

"I am the light of the world." (8:12)

"I am the door of the sheep." (10:7,9)

"I am the resurrection and the life." (11:25)

"I am the good shepherd." (10:11, 14)

"I am the way, the truth, and the life." (14:6)

"I am the true vine." (15:1, 5)



Introduction Writer Gospel Theme and Purpose Outline 7 "I am"

7 Miracles

- 1. Jesus Changes Water Into Wine 2:1-11
- 2. Jesus Heals an Official's Son 4:46-54
- 3. Jesus Heals A Lame Man 5:1-15
- 4. Jesus feeds 5,000 6:1-13
- 5. Jesus Walks On Water 6:16-21
- 6. Jesus Heals a Blind Man 9:1-34
- 7. Jesus raise Lazarus from the Dead 11:38-44





Introduction
Writer
Gospel
Theme and Purpose
Outline
7 "I am"
7 Miracles

Conclusion

John 20:30-31 Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book:

but these are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name.







BACK PAGE NEWS





Introduction

- 1. Trust in God 2. Delight in God
- 3. Commit to God
- 4. Rest in God

Psalms 37:3-8 Trust in God, and do good. Dwell in the land, and enjoy safe pasture.

Also delight yourself in God, And he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to God. Trust also in him, and he will do this: He will make your righteousness go forth as the light, And your justice as the noon day

Rest in God, and wait patiently for him.

Don't fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who makes wicked plots happen.

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath. Don't fret, it leads only to evildoing.



Worth Repeating: Last Sunday's sermon sums up our Christian walk - to trust God, delight in Him and commit our way to God. Once we do this, we can rest in Him and wait patiently for Him to work His good pleasure in our lives. (Below: Last Sunday's pics)





8th May 2022



9 Weeks to our 5th Anniversary



As we are getting used to our new premises, we are also moving closer to our 5th Anniversary. 2021-2022 sees another year of the pandemic, posing new challenges for the congregation.

At the end of 2021, we decided to register the church, as a company. That allowed us to have a business account and also to rent a meeting place. It was a timely decision as the PPCoC was due for construction. For 3 Sundays, we conducted online worship until we finally moved to our new and spacious office at the Launchpad.





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Introduction

Last week introduced the gospel of John

For next 6 weeks, focus on the 7 "I am's" of Jesus in John

So significant to the first-century Jew

Exodus 3:14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"



Introduction

Text

John 6:31-35 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness. As it is written, 'He gave them bread out of heaven to eat.'" Jesus therefore said to them, "Most assuredly, I tell you, it wasn't Moses who gave you the bread out of heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread out of heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world."

They said therefore to him, "Lord, always give us this bread." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will not be hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.



Introduction

Background

John 6 starts with the feeding of 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2 fishes

All fed, with 12 baskets left over

John 6:15 Jesus therefore, perceiving that they were about to come and take him by force, to make him king, withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

A day later, the multiplication of loaves still weighing on their minds, the disciples explored this subject with Jesus.

•		



Introduction Text Background

History

John 6:31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness. As it is written, 'He gave them bread out of heaven to eat.'

Exodus16:15 When the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, "What is it?" For they didn't know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat."

Manna = What is it

Sufficient for each day to instill reliance on God



Introduction Text Background History

Bread of Heaven

John 6:32 Jesus therefore said to them, "Most assuredly, I tell you, it wasn't Moses who gave you the bread out of heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread out of heaven.

Important to give God the praise

Matthew 5:16 Even so, let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.





Introduction Text Background History

Bread of Heaven

John 6:33 For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world.

Jews familiar with manna

+

Yesterday's multiplication of loaves

Now manna becomes a distinctive possibility

So the next verse...



Introduction Text Background History

Bread of Heaven

John 6:34 They said therefore to him, "Lord, always give us this bread."

Bread – a staple food





Introduction Text Background History

Bread of Heaven

John 6:34 They said therefore to him, "Lord, always give us this bread."

Bread - a staple food

Missed the point entirely - Jesus was saying that He was the source of Salvation

Matthew 26:26 "Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body'"

Matthew 4:4 But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.""



Introduction Text Background History Bread of Heaven

Will Not Be Hungry

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will not be hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

Through the sacrifice of the Lord's body and the spilling of His blood on the cross Jesus paid man's debts for their sins, making eternal life in heaven available.

Jesus satisfies our hunger and thirst for righteousness. He is our Bread of Life.



Introduction
Text
Background
History
Bread of Heaven
Will not be Hungry

The Emphasis

John 6:48-51 I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, that anyone may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down out of heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. Yes, the bread which I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Matthew 5:6 Jesus says, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."



Introduction
Text
Background
History
Bread of Heaven
Will not be Hungry
The Emphasis

The Aftermath

John 6:60-66 Therefore many of his disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying! Who can listen to it?"... The flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and are life..." At this, many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

John 6:15 Jesus therefore, perceiving that they were about to come and take him by force, to make him king, withdrew again to the mountain by himself.



Introduction Text Background History Bread of Heaven Will not be Hungry The Emphasis The Aftermath

Conclusion

John 6:26-27 Jesus answered them, Most assuredly I tell you, you seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves, and were filled.

Don't work for the food which perishes, but for the food which remains to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you.

When we obey God's will and live by his Word, we feed on the Bread of Life given by our heavenly Father.

BACK PAGE NEWS





Happy Mother's Day: We thank sister June for sponsoring the refreshments for this evening's Mother's Day celebration after worship. Buffets are still not allowed - see latest regulations below. Photos taken from last Sunday's assembly.





FURTHER EASING OF SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

On **22 April 2022**, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) announced the adjustment of the Disease Outbreak Response System Condition (DORSCON) level from Orange to Yellow and the further easing of community safe management measures (SMMs) from **26 April 2022** (see <u>Annex A</u>).

h. Food and Beverages served during activities in places of worship need not be served in individual portions, and it is encouraged for individuals to be stationary while consuming their meals. Safe distance will not be required between individuals. Self-serve buffet formats are not allowed. VDS will apply where the activity exceeds 500 persons.

Annex B summarises the above changes. Please see the following sections for the defailed conditions for various permitted religious activities











Almost Back to Pre-pandemic Times



The sermon last Sunday was on Jesus as the Bread of Life - He is the author of our Salvation, but Jesus is also the Vine. This implies that we need to connect to Him and draw strength and nutrition from Him to grow in faith.

While it is good to enjoy our live stream worship at home, especially if you are unwell, there is nothing quite like coming together for worship, Care team and fellowship.

Last Sunday we broke the 20-mark in attendance since moving to our new location. Once we break the 30-mark, we would be back to pre-pandemic times when we were assembling at the Metropolitan YMCA.

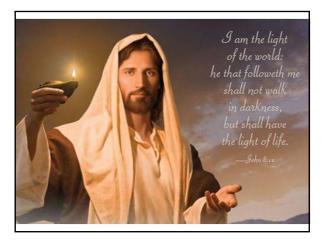
With dinner after the service and celebrating Mother's Day with cake and flowers, it felt like business as usual.

For me personally, it was a deja vu moment when Paul Poon approached me as I was leaving with Nat, offering to carry my bags like he used to do when we were at the Metropolitan YMCA!





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1



Introduction

Last week focused on the first "I am" of Jesus in the book of John

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will not be hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.



2



Introduction

For next 5 weeks, focus on the rest of the "I am's" of Jesus in John

"I am" is significant to the first-century Jewish listener

Exodus 3:14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"





Introduction

Text

John 8:12 Again, therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life."

Interesting that the context was after Jesus told the woman who was caught in the act of adultery to "go and sin no more" - John 8:3-11

John 8:13 The Pharisees therefore said to him, "You testify about yourself. Your testimony is not valid."

4



Introduction

Value of Light

Physical light is necessary for physical life.

Some nordic countries like Sweden and Norway have little sunshine during winter

The earth would be very different and dreary if we had less sunlight.

A forest full of trees has very little plant life on the ground.

Plants will move towards the light.



5



Introduction Text Value of Light

Jesus' Take on Light

Matthew 5:14-16 You are the light of the world. A city located on a hill can't be hidden.

Neither do you light a lamp, and put it under a measuring basket, but on a stand; and it shines to all who are in the house.

Even so, let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.



Introduction Text Value of Light Jesus' take on Light

2 Kinds of Darkness

Physical darkness - Genesis 1:3-5 God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw the light, and saw that it was good. God divided the light from the darkness. God called he light Day, and the darkness he called Night. There was evening and there was morning, one day.

Divine Darkness - 1 John 1:6-7 If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

7



Introduction Text Value of Light Jesus' take on light 2 Kinds of Darkness

Light vs Darkness

To darken a room, switch off the light To dispel darkness, turn on the light

Coexistence of light and darkness: Exodus 10:22-23 Moses stretched forth his hand toward the sky, and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. They didn't see one another, neither did anyone rise from his place for three days; but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.

Modern technology: lighthouse, search lights, lasers

8



Introduction Text Value of Light Jesus' take on light 2 Kinds of Darkness Light vs Darkness

Light Reveals

To darken a room, switch off the light Example: insects under a rock

Ephesians 5:13-14 But all things, when they are reproved, are revealed by the light, for everything that is revealed is light. Therefore he says, "Awake, you who sleep, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

John 3:20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.



Introduction Text Value of Light Jesus' take on Light 2 Kinds of Darkness Light vs Darkness Light Reveals

Application

John 8:12 Again, therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world.

He who follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life."



10



Introduction Text Value of Light Jesus' take on Light 2 Kinds of Darkness Light vs Darkness Light Reveals

Application

Matthew 5:14-16 You are the light of the world.

Even so, let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.



11



Call to Worship Scripture Reading Opening Prayer Congregational Singing Communion & Giving Exhortation Invitation Announcements Closing Prayer



Stay back and join us for The famous Margaret Drive Sin Kee Chicken Rice Fellowship

BACK PAGE NEWS







Please keep the Eric Yeo family in prayer as his son has been infected with Covid-19. The family did the right thing by staying away from in-person worship last Sunday to prevent further spread.

Clockwise: Good to see members returning to in-person worship including sisters Nat, Lay, Doreen and brother Andy... Now that food and fellowship is allowed, we will be rolling them out for the next few weeks. Thanks to sister June for sponsoring last Sunday's dinner and sister Phai for the watermelon. This week's dinner is sponsored by brother Henry... Men to serve in prayer before leading in worship.



22nd May 2022



HoF on a Firm, Sustainable Footing



One of the goals of the Household of Faith was to be a fully registered church within 5 years. God has led us to accomplish this goal despite the pandemic, drop in membership and visitors.

The move to our current premises cost the church \$16,700 in renovations (air conditioning, lights and partitions). Furnishing cost us another \$950 (fridge and furniture).

Another \$2,400 was spent to register the church and maintain secretarial fees for a year.

These expenditures are reflected in the statement of accounts for December 2021 and January-March 2022 with May Bank at the Facebook accounts group for members and regular contributors.

Since we have been registered, we have set up a new Facebook accounts group for the monthly statements of accounts with DBS. All in the first Facebook accounts group have been invited to this group. The March and April accounts have already been posted.

Our main expenditures are on the salary of our minister and the rental of our premises (half of what we used to pay). We are almost breaking even at this time, and call on members and supporters to give of your best.



We thank God, members and supporters for your commitment. *Remember this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.* He who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully - 2 Corinthians 9:6.



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Introduction Series on the 7 "I Am's " of the gospel of John John 10:7, 9 Jesus therefore said to them again, Most assuredly, I tell you, I am the sheep's door.



Introduction

Series on the 7 "I Am's " of the gospel of John

John 10:7, 9 Jesus therefore said to them again, Most assuredly, I tell you, I am the sheep's door.





Sheep

Also important to learn about sheep
– many references in the Bible

Domesticated and Defenseless

- Cannot survive without shepherd
- No homing instinct
- Hears shepherd's voice





Introduction

Text

John 10:1-5 Most assuredly, I tell you, one who doesn't enter by the door into the sheep fold, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

But one who enters in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name, and leads them out. Whenever he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

They will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him; for they don't know the voice of strangers.



Introduction

Text

- The Shepherd enters by the door
 The gatekeeper opens the gate
 The sheep listen to his voice

 - He calls his own sheep by name

 - He leads them outHe goes before them
 - The sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

Thieves and robbers climb up some other way

- The sheep will not follow a stranger
 They will flee from them
 They do not recognize the voice of strangers



Introduction Text

1. Salvation by Jesus

John 10:7-9 If anyone enters in by me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out, and will find pasture.

Acts 4:12 There is salvation in none other, for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, by which we must be saved!"

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.





Introduction Text 1. Salvation by Jesus

2. Go In and Out

John 10:7-9 If anyone enters in by me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out, and will find

Go in to rest Go out to revive, refresh, pasture and souls





Introduction Text 1. Salvation by Jesus 2. Go in and out

3. Find Pasture

John 10:7-9 If anyone enters in by me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out, and will find pasture.

Psalms 23:2 He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Pandemic has created TV Christians

Faith is not strengthen without fellowship

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as you see the Day approaching.



Introduction
Text
1. Salvation by Jesus
2. Go in and out
3. Find pasture

Conclusion

John 10:7, 9 Jesus therefore said to them again, Most assuredly, I tell you, I am the sheep's door.

In Jesus we have safety, protection and salvation

Enter to worship - Go in to refresh Leave to serve – Go out for pasture





Call to Worship Scripture Reading Opening Prayer Congregational Singing Communion & Giving Exhortation Invitation Announcements Closing Prayer



Stay back for Hot Dog Fellowship

BACK PAGE NEWS





Clockwise: Good dinner fellowship after worship last Sunday; Ladies Care team with Aunty Lai; Announcements; Our children enjoying food and fellowship; Youth Care team.



29th May 2022

HoF Pandemic Experience

- How God Blesses Faithfulness



Nobody welcomed the pandemic. It has caused untold deaths, suffering and loss all around the world. For the church, members have left, with some congregations finding it difficult to sustain themselves.

The Household of Faith was doing well on its third year at the Metropolitan YMCA when the pandemic hit. We were on track to registration, with a consistent attendance of over 30 weekly.

With strict rules imposed by the government, we were no longer allowed to meet and had to resort to live streaming. We met the challenge by strengthening our network, enhanced our webpage and Facebook group.

When the ppcoc office where we were live streaming was due for rebuilding, we registered our church to be able to rent premises for our meeting.

Now 3 months into our new location, HoF is gradually rebuilding its attendance, with most of the membership back at in-person worship. Some visitors have returned. We are working towards a consistent attendance of over 20 each week.

Throughout the past 2 years, we have endeavoured to meet every Sunday, keep our bulletin going and stay in touch with members and visitors.

One church family has stopped coming, another member has transferred out of HoF, but the bulk of HoF is intact and is now regular at the new location.

Our contribution had dropped along the way, but keeping our expenses low, we are breaking even.

While the pandemic has deprived us of the opportunity to meet, restrictions have now been relaxed so that we not only can meet, but enjoy dinner fellowship afterwards.

After 2 years of staying at home to worship, God has blessed our faithfulness by protecting HoF, meeting our needs and now placing us in a better position than before the pandemic.

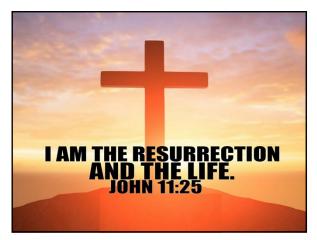
We look forward to celebrating our 5th Anniversary in 2 months. One way we all can contribute is to look out for our family and friends and inviting them to join us in our Care teams, worship and fellowship. Start by telling them about our website, Facebook group and live streaming. Then pick them up and bring them along as you come for worship.



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1



2



Introduction

Series on the 7 "I Am's" of the gospel of John

"I am the bread of life." (6:35)

"I am the light of the world." (8:12)

"I am the door of the sheep." (10:7,9)

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he die, yet will he live.



Text

John 11:21-27 Therefore Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you would have been here, my brother wouldn't have died. Even now I know that, whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he die, yet will he live. Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, he who comes into the world."

4



Martha's Faith

John 11:21-27 Therefore Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you would have been here, my brother wouldn't have died. Even now I know that, whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

Bad Press: Luke 10:41-42 Jesus answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her."

Believed in Jesus' healing

Even when her brother had been dead for 4 days

5



Introduction Text Martha's Faith

God's Plan

John 11:24 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

No hope on earth but hope of heaven Christians at funerals

The sickness was "for God's glory, that God's Son may be glorified through it" (John 11:4).

- Stayed where he was for two more days Jesus said His friend was "asleep, but I am going there to wake him up"



Introduction Text Martha's Faith God's Plan

Jesus' Declaration

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life.

He who believes in me, though he die, yet will he live. Whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Jesus was claiming to be the source of the resurrection and the life.

Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life...will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The apostles' faith in the resurrected Christ

7



Introduction Text Martha's Faith God's Plan

Aftermath

John 11:39-45 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

Jesus said to her, "Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see God's glory?" So they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying...

When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" He who was dead came out, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth.

Jesus said to them, "Free him, and let him go." Therefore many of the Jews, who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did, believed in him.

8



Introduction Text Martha's Faith God's Plan Jesus' Declaration

Aftermath

John 12:1-11 Then six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, who had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. So they made him a supper there. Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with him...

Mary, therefore, took a pound of ointment of pure nard, very precious, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair...

A large crowd therefore of the Jews learned that he was there, and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead. But the chief priests conspired to put Lazarus to death also, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.



Introduction Text Martha's Faith God's Plan Jesus' Declaration Aftermath

Conclusion

John 11:26-27 Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, he who comes into the world."

What about you?

Jesus shows that death is not an obstacle to Him.

Jesus not only *claims* to be the resurrection and the life, but proved it by raising Lazarus, who had been dead for four days.

Because He lives, we live. Because He is Life, we have life eternally.

10



Call to Worship Scripture Reading Opening Prayer Congregational Singing Communion & Giving Exhortation Invitation Announcements Closing Prayer



Fried Rice fellowship Sponsored by the Alfred Poons Chicken Wings by June

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