

Let's Talk: Day 15

Today's Reading: John 11:32-44

Today's miracle is concerning a family that Jesus loved dearly (v. 3,5). Scripture paints a picture that this family's house was as close to a home as Jesus had. When reading this passage, think of how you would have felt if this had been your family.

Questions:

1. Who did Jesus raise from the dead?
2. Why did Jesus cry if He knew He was about to raise Lazarus from the dead? What was there to be sad about?
3. Did Jesus have to pray out loud when He asked God to raise Lazarus from the dead? Why did He pray out loud?
4. Can you think of a time that Jesus did something in your life when it wasn't just for you, but others got to see how awesome God was through that experience?

Let's Talk: Day 16

Today's Reading: John 12:12-19

To set the scene, talk about a parade you might have attended or watched on TV. Imagine Jesus on a donkey being the main float. Describe what the smells, sounds, and sights might be like.

Questions:

1. How did the people praise Jesus?
2. If you had been there, what do you think you would have done? What words of praise to Jesus can you think of right now?
3. Why do you think the Pharisees hated Jesus so much? (v. 19) Do you know anyone in your world who is mean to people who do the right thing?

Let's Talk: Day 17

Today's Reading: John 13:21-35

If you're having this discussion around the table, talk about the way Jesus might have eaten Roman style, lying on couches. Do you think they joked around like we sometimes do at the table? Would Jesus have snuck a French fry from John if the Last Supper had been at a restaurant?!

Questions:

1. What did Jesus know about Judas ahead of time? (v.21)
2. There were 12 disciples at the table: John was quiet; Peter spoke up; the others' words aren't recorded in the Bible. Which disciple would you have been like? What would you have said to Jesus?
3. Jesus said people would know his disciples by their love toward one another. Look at your life the past week. Would the people around you know by your love that you are one of Jesus' disciples? If so, how? If not, how do you want to live differently this next week?

Let's Talk: Day 18

Today's Reading: John 14:1-6

Today is a great discussion starter for what heaven and eternity might be like. "I Can Only Imagine" would be one of many great songs you could listen to, adding a multi-sensory experience to today's discussion.

Questions:

1. In today's passage, what does Jesus say He is? (v. 6)
2. If you could, how would you design your mansion in heaven? What do you think we will do in heaven? (You might want some paper for this activity.)
3. What does Jesus mean when He says, "no man can come to the Father except through me"? How does one do that in a practical daily way? Do you go to Jesus daily?

Let's Talk: Day 19

Today's Reading: John 15:1-14

If you want to use some visual aids today, you can Google images of “beautiful gardens.” Jesus desires us to be pruned and beautiful, just like these plants. There are some gorgeous and funny photos to talk about.

Questions:

1. Jesus talks about “pruning” us so we can bear more fruit. What does that look like in our lives? Do you imagine pruning feels good? Why is it so important?
2. What does it look like for us to abide with Jesus? (v. 4,7) You might want to look up ‘abide’ in the dictionary. How do you abide with your parents? How can you do that with Jesus too?
3. What makes a good friend? Verse 14 shows what being a friend looks like to Jesus. Considering His criteria, have you been Jesus’ friend in the past several months? How would you like to live differently next week?

Let’s Talk: Day 20

Today’s Reading: Psalm 118:24-29

Today’s reading is like a verse from a song that was written long ago; it was also quoted in our John 12 reading earlier this week. It is like reading the lyrics without the tune. Verse 24 has been made into a song by Lincoln Brewster called “Today is the Day.” If you have time to listen to it, how does this bring the psalm to life?

Questions:

1. What kind of tune would you put to this psalm? Would you make it a slow, rap or rock tune?
2. In verse 28, the psalmist declares that God is his God. Is God your God or just your Mom’s God or Dad’s God? What’s the difference?
3. The psalmist says he will praise God. Is this an emotional choice or a declaration? Have you chosen to praise God? How?
4. Name something you can thank Jesus for today?

Let’s Talk: Day 21

Today’s Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Suggested Activity:

Play a board game with your kids or bundle up and go for a walk. Talk about what has been your most interesting reading so far this year.