

## HOME DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

Week of March 8th - March 14th, 2025

SUNDAY, MARCH 8th, 2025

Daily Verse: John 11:1-16

### Weekly Catechism

7. Q. What are the decrees of God?

A. The decrees of God are his eternal purpose according to the counsel of his own will, whereby for his own glory he has foreordained whatever comes to pass (Eph. 1:11–12).

Spurgeon, C. H. *A Catechism, With Proofs*. Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2009.

### Sermon Notes

## **\*\*The Sovereign Timing of God\*\***

**\*\*Text:\*\*** John 11:1–16

### **\*\*Main Idea:\*\***

God's timing is never \_\_\_\_\_, and His delays always serve His greater \_\_\_\_\_.

### **\*\*I. The Glory of God Is the Purpose of \_\_\_\_\_\*\***

- Jesus said, "This sickness is not unto \_\_\_\_\_ but for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God."
- Our ultimate purpose in life is to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to God (1 Corinthians 10:31).
- God is glorified in beauty, in obedience, in hardship, and even in \_\_\_\_\_.

### **\*\*II. Jesus' Followers Were \_\_\_\_\_ and Knew Where to Go (vv. 1–3)\*\***

- Mary and Martha sought \_\_\_\_\_ when their brother was ill.
- True desperation moves us beyond \_\_\_\_\_ and into action.
- Faith acts even when we can't see the \_\_\_\_\_.

### **\*\*III. God Always Has \_\_\_\_\_ in Our Delays (vv. 4–6)\*\***

- Jesus stayed two more \_\_\_\_\_ before returning.
- What seemed like delay was really divine \_\_\_\_\_.
- God uses waiting to strengthen our \_\_\_\_\_ and reveal His \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:28).

**### \*\*IV. God's Love Is \_\_\_\_\_, Not Limited by Emotion (v. 5)\*\***

- The sisters spoke of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ love (\*phileo\*), but John records His \_\_\_\_\_ love (\*agape\*).
- Divine love waits for the \_\_\_\_\_ moment to bring about the best possible \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sometimes love looks like \_\_\_\_\_.

**### \*\*V. True Followers Go with Jesus Even If It Leads to \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 7–16)\*\***

- Thomas said, "Let us go that we may \_\_\_\_\_ with Him."
- Following Jesus means trusting Him even when the path looks \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our obedience opens the door to seeing God's greatest \_\_\_\_\_.

**### \*\*Conclusion – God's Perfect Timing\*\***

- Jesus redefined \_\_\_\_\_ – for believers it is only "sleep."
- He is working all things together for His \_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_.
- When you don't understand the delay, trust that His \_\_\_\_\_ is perfect.

Would you like me to make a printable or slide version of this outline (for PowerPoint or handout format)?

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**Referenced Bible Verses**

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John 10:40 (ESV): "He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained."

John 11:21 (ESV): "Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'"

John 11:22 (ESV): "But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

Psalms 19:1 (ESV): "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork."

Revelation 4:11 (ESV): "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

1 Corinthians 10:31 (ESV): "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

Romans 8:28 (ESV): "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 30:18 (ESV): "Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him."

1 Thessalonians 4:13–15 (ESV): "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep."

Monday, March 9th, 2025

✓ Daily Verse: John 11:4

✓ Review Weekly Catechism

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✓ DEVOTIONAL

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Jesus' response to the urgent message about Lazarus is startling: He declares that the illness has a purpose beyond the immediate crisis. Rather than rushing to heal, He points to the deeper reason—God's glory and His own exaltation. The delay is not neglect; it is intentional. The same pattern often plays out in our lives: we measure situations by how quickly the pain is resolved, yet Jesus measures them by how clearly His glory shines. Divine timing rarely aligns with human urgency, but it always aligns with higher purposes.

When we believe that every season—including the confusing, silent, or delayed ones—can serve the glory of God, our posture shifts from anxiety to worship. Jesus never wastes suffering; He redeems it. Our task is to surrender our timeline and trust that God is writing a story in which His glory and our ultimate good are intertwined.

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Questions for Reflection

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1. Where do you feel most pressured to rush God?
2. How does knowing God's glory is the ultimate goal reframe your current situation?
3. What might you miss if you demand answers on your own schedule?
4. How can you anchor your prayers in trust rather than urgency?
5. Which attribute of God do you need to meditate on to cultivate patience?

**Tuesday, March 10th, 2025**

✓ Daily Verse: John 11:3

✓ Review Weekly Catechism

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✓ **DEVOTIONAL**

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Mary and Martha display desperation that propels them straight toward Jesus. They travel dusty miles believing He alone can help, refusing to stay passive when their brother's life is on the line. Desperation reveals belief. Those who are convinced Jesus is their only hope will cross any distance, overcome any embarrassment, and push through any crowd to reach Him. In an age of comfortable spirituality, their urgency challenges us: are we desperate enough to pursue Christ with that kind of determination?

Desperation doesn't guarantee immediate resolution, but it does place us before the only One who can truly act. Mary and Martha didn't have full understanding, yet they ran to the right Person. Faith doesn't require knowing how Jesus will respond; it requires knowing that Jesus alone is worth pursuing, even when His timing confuses us. Brokenness becomes holy when it drives us into His presence.

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**Questions for Reflection**

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1. What keeps you from expressing desperation before Jesus?
2. When was the last time you pursued Him without worrying about others' opinions?
3. How can you cultivate "movement faith" rather than passive faith?
4. Are there areas where you've stopped seeking because you're afraid of disappointment?
5. How might desperation actually be an invitation to deeper intimacy with Christ?

**Wednesday, March 11th, 2025**

Prayer Nights at 7pm

Thursday, March 12th, 2025

✓ Daily Verse: John 11:5-6

✓ Review Weekly Catechism

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✓ DEVOTIONAL

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Love and delay sit side by side in this sentence. Jesus' love is not the hasty, anxious reaction of human affection; it is the patient, sovereign love of God that does what is eternally best. Agape love sometimes waits because the greater miracle, the deeper faith, and the fuller revelation of God's glory are found on the other side of the delay. This challenges our assumptions: we equate love with immediate action, but Jesus equates love with outcomes that magnify God and mature our belief.

Waiting is not evidence of God's absence; it is proof of His intentional care. While human timing would have prevented Lazarus' death, divine timing would resurrect him and strengthen the disciples for what lay ahead. In your own waiting, take courage: the same agape love governs your life. The delay you dislike may be the very stage on which God plans to showcase His power.

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### Questions for Reflection

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1. How have you interpreted divine delays in the past?
2. What would change if you believed God's love is active even when He seems still?
3. Where might Jesus be preparing a greater outcome than you are asking for?
4. How can patience become an act of worship rather than frustration?
5. What practical steps can you take to remind yourself of God's agape love during waiting seasons?

Friday, March 13th, 2025

✓ Daily Verse: John 11:11

✓ Review Weekly Catechism

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✓ DEVOTIONAL

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Jesus redefines death as sleep for all who belong to Him. Lazarus' four days in the tomb were not the end but the prelude to restoration. This moment previews the future reality secured by Jesus' own resurrection: physical death is a doorway, not a destination, for believers. The grave loses its finality when the Author of life stands outside calling, "Come forth."

This confidence reshapes how we grieve, persevere, and hope. Jesus doesn't minimize suffering; He transforms it by anchoring it in eternity. Our trials—no matter how severe—cannot outlast the resurrection power of Christ. Every delay, every risk, every desperate prayer finds resolution in the One who conquers death and invites us to live with resurrection eyes even now.

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Questions for Reflection

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1. How does Jesus' view of death challenge your own fears?
2. In what ways does resurrection hope influence your present suffering?
3. Where do you need to hear Jesus say, "I am going to awaken this"?
4. How can you comfort others with the truth that death for believers is "sleep"?
5. What changes when you live today with eternity in mind?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SUNDAY MARCH 8TH

*Morning Services*

*9:15am*

*9:30am - Men's Group*

*11:00am*

### WEDNESDAY MARCH 11TH

*Wednesday Night Services*

*7:00pm*

### SUNDAY MARCH 15TH

*Morning Services*

*9:15am*

*9:30am - Men's Group*

*11:00am*

### WEDNESDAY MARCH 18TH

*Wednesday Night Services*

*7:00pm*

### WEDNESDAY MARCH 19TH

*Mommy and Me - Zoo*

*9:00am-Noon*

### SUNDAY MARCH 22ND

*Morning Services*

*9:15am*

*9:30am - Men's Group*

*11:00am*

### WEDNESDAY MARCH 25TH

*Wednesday Night Services*

*7:00pm*

