

GOD IS OUR FRIEND

IN GOOD TIMES AND BAD

LESSON POINTS

Bible Story | Jesus Comforts Mary and Martha

John 11:1-44

- Jesus had some friends in Bethany named Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, who were brother and sisters.
- Lazarus became very sick and his sisters sent word to Jesus to come help him.
- Jesus loved His friends very much, and He knew that ultimately Lazarus was going to be okay.
- Jesus waited a few days before going to Bethany to see them.
- Lazarus died and was put into the tomb.
- Mary and Martha were very sad, but they still believed Jesus could help.
- When Jesus arrived, each sister asked Jesus why he didn't come sooner before Lazarus died.
- Jesus saw how upset they were, and He cried with them and comforted them.
- Jesus went to Lazarus' tomb and had them remove the stone from the tomb entrance.
- Jesus prayed to God then called for Lazarus to come out of the tomb.
- Lazarus walked out of the tomb wrapped in his grave clothes totally alive!
- Because Jesus was Mary and Martha's friend, He was there for them in their sadness, and they trusted Him.

MINISTRY IDEA

Prophetic Words

Provide time in the large or small group time where children have the chance to personally talk to God about something that makes them sad or worried.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why did Mary and Martha send word to Jesus that Lazarus was sick?
2. Why did Jesus wait a few days before He went to see His friends?
3. How did Jesus act when he saw Mary and Martha?
4. How can you help a friend when they are going through a sad time?
5. Why is it important to pray for your friends and ask God how to help them?

DRAMA SYNOPSIS #97

SpeezMaker is praising God for his good fortune then he finds out his dog is missing. Speez gets very upset. Virginia reminds Speez that God is our friend when times are good and bad.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

Thinking of You Card

Have children make a card for a friend that is going through a sad time. Help them to think of what to say that will bring encouragement and comfort to their friend.

Great Times with Friends Game

Play Pictionary or Charades with the children having the subjects to guess be things they like to do best with their friends - i.e. talk, ride bikes, dress up clothes, play football.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

Children will learn that God is their Friend, and He will be with them in the good times and the bad.

LIFE APPLICATION

Through learning that God is their Friend, children will follow Jesus example of being a friend at all times.

MEMORY VERSE

But I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I heard from my Father.
John 15:15b