

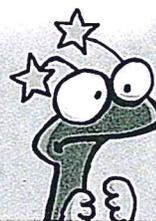
Lazarus

Three of Jesus' good friends included a man named Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha. Jesus was on a long journey when he found out that Lazarus was dying. It took Jesus a few days to travel to see his sick friend. When Jesus arrived, he saw Lazarus's sister, Martha. She had some sad news.

"Jesus! Lazarus is dead!" cried Martha. "I wish you could have arrived earlier. You might have been able to save him!"

Jesus tried to comfort her. "Martha, don't be sad. Lazarus will live again!" Martha believed what Jesus said.

Then, Lazarus's other sister, Mary, came to greet Jesus. She wished Jesus had come sooner too.



“Jesus, if you had been here, Lazarus might still be alive,” she wept. She also believed that Jesus could have healed her brother.

Jesus was sad because Lazarus died, too. He cried and cried. Jesus, Martha, and Mary went to the tomb where Lazarus was buried. Jesus told some people standing there, “Take the stone away from the tomb.”



The people were surprised at what Jesus said.

Martha reminded Jesus that Lazarus had been dead for four days. They had already made his body ready for burial by wrapping it in special clothes. But Jesus knew what he was doing. He insisted that they open the tomb.

When the heavy stone was rolled away, Jesus said, "Lazarus, come out!" The people were frightened and amazed when Lazarus came out of the tomb. Since his



hands and his feet were all wrapped up in the burial clothes, the people had to help Lazarus.

When the people saw Lazarus alive again, they laughed and sang and danced. Many

people that day believed Jesus would

bring new life to all people.



If you had been friends with Lazarus, how would you feel after he died? How would you feel after you saw him alive again?

