SERMON GUIDE

OUT OF THE DARKNESS OF DEATH

John 11:1-45

Pastor | Tim Porter

June 22, 2025

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Helping people live a gospel inspired life.

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SERMON NOTES

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OUR MISSION is to make more and better disciples
of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (Year 1, Week 26)
1 Cor. 13: 4-8a (Godly living)

4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is
not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is
not irritable or resentful;[a] 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing,
but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all
things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends.

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

CONTACT INFO

💻 fcchudson.com

✉ faithcommunity@fcchudson.com

📍 777 Carmichael Road | Hudson, WI 54016

📱 715.386.4070

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The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

Scripture that stands out to you while you read
Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you
Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
Prayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Setting The Table: John 11 is one of the most profound and personal chapters in the Gospel of John. It tells the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead—a miracle that not only displays His divine power but also reveals His deep compassion and His purpose in coming into the world. (Note: This happens shortly before Jesus' own death and resurrection and functions as a preview of what is to come. This passage challenges our assumptions about timing, suffering, and the nature of faith—and it ultimately points us to Jesus as the One who has authority over life and death.

Read John 11:1-45

S What do you love most about what you just read? What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?

O What does Jesus say about Lazarus' sickness in verses 4 and 14-15? How do you think this should re-frame the way we think about our own suffering?

- How do you feel about this right now? Why? Is there any particular suffering in your life to which this story is speaking?

O How does Jesus respond emotionally to Mary and the crowd (v.33-36)? What does this reveal about Jesus' character and how he relates to human grief and suffering?

- How is this ministering to you right now?

O "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (v.25-26).

- What impact do you think Jesus intends for this truth to have on Mary?
- What impact do you think he wants it to have on you right now?

A If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?

A Is there any place in your life right now where you feel like Jesus is "four days late"? What does trusting Jesus – his timing and his heart – look like this week for you?

P Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.