



# Lesson 6: “An Invitation to Life with God, Now and Forever”

## 6-8 Crew Club Plan

<b><u>Key Teaching Point</u></b>	I’m invited to receive life forever with Jesus.
<b><u>Bible Verse</u></b>	“And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.” (1 John 5:11, NLT)
<b><u>Bible Passage</u></b>	“Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead” (John 11:1-44, NLT).
<b><u>Materials</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A Bible</li> <li>● A coin or a dollar bill</li> <li>● A tube of medical ointment</li> <li>● A family photo</li> <li>● Handout 1</li> <li>● Handout 2</li> <li>● Handout 3</li> <li>● Four rolls of toilet paper</li> </ul>

### **Relate** (20 minutes)

Welcome students with a snack.

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while students eat their snack:

Icebreaker Options (Choose one):

- God sightings: Ask students to describe how they've seen God at work in their school or at their home in the past week.
- Let students take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the Feelings Wheel (from the CKC Games Bag).
- Open a discussion with a question, "What's the craziest thing you've ever witnessed?"

### Play a game.

#### Lazarus Tomb Wrap

Divide the students into two teams. Decide who is Lazarus for each team. Give each team two rolls of toilet paper. On the signal "GO," each team starts wrapping Lazarus with the paper. When they are finished, ask the teams to shout, "Lazarus, Come out!" After Lazarus is wrapped and the team shouts, Lazarus should quickly unwrap himself while the team rolls the paper back up again as best as they can. When Lazarus is finished, he should shout: "Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life." The first team whose Lazarus yells this is the winner! If you have enough toilet paper you may play another round. Then, challenge the students to see which team can be the first to throw all the remaining pieces of toilet paper in the trash.

**Today we are going to hear a true story from the Bible about a man named Lazarus who died and was wrapped in grave clothes and buried in a tomb only to come back to life again when Jesus arrived on the scene and called him to come out of the tomb!**



### **Receive (20 minutes)**

#### Read God's Word.

Let students lead the telling of the Bible story. Divide students into three groups. Assign each group a section of the Bible text by passing out Handouts 1, 2 and 3. Ask students to read the passage together and to choose one of the choices below. Each group will prepare to share their section of the Bible story with the rest of the group. Remind students that they don't need to capture every detail in their assigned part.

- Choice #1: Act out the scene.
- Choice #2: Retell the story in your own words.

Ask students to present their part of the story. The group with Handout 1 should start, the group with Handout 2 should follow and then the group with Handout 3 should go last.



### **Respond (20 minutes)**

#### Apply God's Truth.

Read 1 John 5:11 and John 11:25-26 in the *New Living Translation*:

**“And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.”** (1 John 5:11, NLT)

**“Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die.”** (John 11:25-26, NLT)

**The life in Jesus and the life that Jesus offers us is life that never ends: life with God. Death is what separates us from God, but Jesus says that anyone who believes in him will never be separated from God.**

**The kind of life that Jesus has is made known in the miracle of Lazarus, because even after Lazarus died, when Jesus arrived and called him out of the grave, Lazarus came back to life! Jesus also revealed this kind of life in his own death, because after he died for our sins, Jesus came back to life three days later. The life that Jesus has and offers us is a life with God that never ends!**

**Is there anything in our own lives that can offer us the same life that Jesus offers us? Can money offer us the kind of life that Jesus offers us?** (Hold up a coin or a dollar bill.)

Take student responses.

**Can family and friends offer us the kind of life that Jesus offers us?** (Hold up a family photo.)

Take student responses.

**Can doctors or medicine offer us the kind of life that Jesus offers us?** (Hold up a tube of medical ointment.)

Take student responses.

**Jesus’s life is unlike any other we can find in this world. The life the world offers us only lasts a short while, while the life that Jesus offers us is a life with God that lasts forever. This invitation to receive this kind of life requires a response. Jesus asks us to respond by trusting in him alone to bring us near to God and to provide for us everlasting life!**

**Sing and worship together.**

Pick a song from the [Praise and Worship Guide](#), or choose one of your own. Incorporate movement into the songs whenever possible.

**Close in prayer.**

Take prayer requests and then close in prayer together using the prompts below, pausing after each one to allow students to pray individually. After you provide some time for students to respond and before you move on to the following prompt, ask students to join you in saying: “Jesus, you are the resurrection and the life. Bring your powerful life here.”

**Bring before Jesus something difficult that’s going on in your world, nation, or community.**

(Jesus, you are the resurrection and the life. Bring your powerful life here.)

**Bring before Jesus a difficult friendship or relationship in your life.**

(Jesus, you are the resurrection and the life. Bring your powerful life here.)

**Bring before Jesus a sin habit that you struggle with.**

(Jesus, you are the resurrection and the life. Bring your powerful life here.)

**Bring before Jesus something that someone has done that has hurt you.**

(Jesus, you are the resurrection and the life. Bring your powerful life here.)

**Amen.**

## Handout 1

A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. This is the Mary who later poured the expensive perfume on the Lord's feet and wiped them with her hair. Her brother, Lazarus, was sick. So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, "Lord, your dear friend is very sick."

But when Jesus heard about it he said, "Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this." So although Jesus loved Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, he stayed where he was for the next two days. Finally, he said to his disciples, "Let's go back to Judea."

But his disciples objected. "Rabbi," they said, "only a few days ago the people in Judea were trying to stone you. Are you going there again?"

Jesus replied, "There are twelve hours of daylight every day. During the day people can walk safely. They can see because they have the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But at night there is danger of stumbling because they have no light." Then he said, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but now I will go and wake him up."

The disciples said, "Lord, if he is sleeping, he will soon get better!" They thought Jesus meant Lazarus was simply sleeping, but Jesus meant Lazarus had died.

So he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. And for your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there, for now you will really believe. Come, let's go see him."

Thomas, nicknamed the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let's go, too—and die with Jesus."

## Handout 2

When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days. Bethany was only a few miles down the road from Jerusalem, and many of the people had come to console Martha and Mary in their loss. When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask.”

Jesus told her, “Your brother will rise again.”

“Yes,” Martha said, “he will rise when everyone else rises, on the last day.”

Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?”

“Yes, Lord,” she told him. “I have always believed you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world from God.” Then she returned to Mary. She called Mary aside from the mourners and told her, “The Teacher is here and wants to see you.” So Mary immediately went to him.

## Handout 3

Jesus had stayed outside the village, at the place where Martha met him. When the people who were at the house consoling Mary saw her leave so hastily, they assumed she was going to Lazarus's grave to weep. So they followed her there. When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within him,<sup>1</sup> and he was deeply troubled. "Where have you put him?" he asked them.

They told him, "Lord, come and see." Then Jesus wept. The people who were standing nearby said, "See how much he loved him!" But some said, "This man healed a blind man. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"

Jesus was still angry as he arrived at the tomb, a cave with a stone rolled across its entrance. "Roll the stone aside," Jesus told them.

But Martha, the dead man's sister, protested, "Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible."

Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?" So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. You always hear me, but I said it out loud for the sake of all these people standing here, so that they will believe you sent me." Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a head cloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!"