

# JESUS—UNPLUGGED

## (I AM THE RESURRECTION & LIFE)

November 01, 2009

FBC Port A

The book of John let's us in on at least 8 statements that many of that day, and today, call ridiculous. These statements are from Jesus, illustrating who God is and how He meets our needs. At the time Jesus made these statements, they could be viewed as incredible, incredulous, ridiculous and astounding.

Jesus is revealing Himself in each "I AM" statement. When Jesus told Martha that He is THE Resurrection AND the Life, He wasn't just being dramatic. Jesus wants us to understand that this life is temporary. It is so easy to look at life here as all that matters. Jesus is using the megaphone of pain and suffering to help us realize that our attention should be put on the eternal.

### 5 Things God Uses to Bring a Resurrection

1. Jesus uses **events** for God's glory.

**John 11:4-6 NLT** *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.*

**John 9:3 NLT** *"It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him..."*

2. Jesus uses **death** to make use like Him.

**John 11:13-16 NLT** *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."*

**Gal 2:20-21 NLT** *My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.*

3. Jesus uses **sorrow** to give us hope.

**John 11:23-26 NLT** *Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again." "Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at 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?"*

**Heb 4:15 NLT** *This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for He faced all of the same testings we do, yet He did not sin.*

4. Jesus uses **grief** to sympathize with our humanity.

**John 11:33-36 NLT** *When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within Him, 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!"*

**Isa 53:3-5 NLT** *He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on Him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. Yet it was our weaknesses He carried; it was our sorrows that weighed Him down. And we thought His troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for His own sins! But He was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.*

5. Jesus uses **people** to bring unbelievers to a resurrected life.

**John 11:41-45 NLT** *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 headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!" Many of the people who were with Mary believed in Jesus when they saw this happen.*

**Mar 16:15-16 NLT** *And then He told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.*

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