

Message Big Idea

Jesus came to bring a YOU+ life that offers hope to your children.

Scripture

John 11:17-44, John 16:33b

Points to Keep In Mind

1. We appreciate the way you lead and love your group members. This week's Big Idea could be a painful topic for any of us in the midst of a mental health struggle so please approach this topic with grace, gentleness and tenderness. For those in your group who have lost someone to suicide or for those whose kids are struggling with depression and have attempted suicide, you may need to remind them it was not their fault and the conversation today is in no way intended to shame or cause them to feel like there was something they missed. There are all sorts of reasons why people feel despair. Sometimes there isn't a recognizable reason, and yet despair is still there. As you facilitate this week's discussion, keep in mind our mental health resource page that lists many wonderful trained and licensed local counselors. The link is listed below.
2. Martha and Mary also appear in Luke 10:38-42 with differing reactions to Jesus' arrival. Martha works hard to welcome Jesus to her home. Her sister, Mary, simply sits at Jesus' feet and listens. Both Martha and Mary serve, yet Mary understands the priority of choosing to spend focused time with Jesus and Jesus commends Mary for doing so.
3. Not only is Jesus' tears evidence that he was a real human being, but throughout the Gospel of John it is telling us something much more striking: that when we look at Jesus in tears, we are seeing not just a flesh-and-blood human being, but the Word made flesh (John 1:1-14). The Word, through whom the world was made, weeps at the grave of his friend. This is the true picture of our amazing God.
4. The Week 3 message featuring the video interview with Dr. Chinwé Williams can be viewed on our YouTube Channel (youtube.com/@cmmntycc). To learn more about this topic, check out the book "Seen" and "Beyond the Spiral" by Will Hutcherson and Dr. Chinwé Williams, PhD available on Amazon.com.
5. For question #10, if your group members respond with a "yes" to experiencing the new life that Jesus offers, you may want to ask a follow up question about baptism. If they have yet to be baptized, direct them to the link below.

Additional Questions and Resources

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey? Visit communitychristian.org/nextsteps
3. Have you considered getting baptized? Visit communitychristian.org/baptism/
4. What have you been learning from the Community Daily? Sign up at communitychristian.org/daily
5. If someone is seeking professional counseling, you can always refer them to our resource page: communitychristian.org/mentalhealth/
6. Find out more about having a YOU+ conversation by visiting: YouPlus.info
7. Download YOU+ resources for parents at kidscity.org