

DIDN'T HAVE TO BE THERE

April 13, 2025

Get a Grip & Get a Life // For Those He Loves // John 11:17-37

CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships

1. Is there anything noteworthy going on in your life since last week? Where have you seen God at work in your life or the lives of others since we last met?
2. When have you shared a story with someone else that ended with "I guess you just had to be there?" Or what sort of experience have you been through in your life that you think no one else would quite understand without having been there?

REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. From a fresh reading of John 11:17-37 [read it together], what's one thing that speaks to you in your current walk?
4. What's one thing from this week's sermon that you hope we talk about as a group?
5. What's something you tend to expect on *your* timetable—and get frustrated when it doesn't happen?
6. Pastor Jeremy talked about how the echoed statement of Martha and Mary in verses 21 and 31 revealed their assumption that Jesus is limited in time and space. How do we sometimes limit Jesus by our own expectations?
7. In John 11:25, Jesus says "I am the resurrection and the life." What should be different about a Christian who is living with resurrection hope every day?
8. Martha realigned her life to faith in Christ's will even when she couldn't fully understand how He was working (v.27). How can we follow her example?
9. Seeing how Jesus wept with those who are grieving (v. 35), what does this passage teach us about how Jesus relates to our pain and how we should relate to the pain of others?

PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)

10. Pastor Jeremy pointed to Mary's example of worshiping Jesus - in the good days and bad, she could be found at Jesus' feet. Where are you right now? Has anything about the troubles of your own life caused you to slip away from a position of worship?
11. How might you be wrestling with God's timing or feeling like He is distant? How can we pray for you in that struggle?

Take time to pray for each other—specifically that we would trust God's timing, even when it doesn't align with our own. And pray that He would help us to worship Him in times of joy and sorrow.



Announcements

This is the final week of our first trimester of Life Groups! Our second trimester will start on May 18, so enjoy the break and help us to reflect on the first trimester. What went well? How could we improve our groups experience? What would you want to convey to individuals considering signing up for a group next time around? Send us a message at groups@nvf.life to share your feedback. Your message could help us make the groups experience even better or show others just what they've been missing out on. In the time until our next trimester starts, we'll be working to launch new groups and providing opportunities for individuals to RE-GROUP.

Easter week is here! If you're still holding out, check out our Easter page (<https://nvf.life/easter>) to RSVP, sign up to serve, or invite others. Here's what's going on this week:

- **Journey to the Cross** event on Good Friday (4/18) from 6-8pm
- **Easter Egg Hunt** for the kids on Easter Saturday (4/19) at 1pm
- **Easter Sunday Worship** will include **3 services at different times** (8:30am, 10am, and 11:30am). Help us get the word out.
 - FOR EASTER MORNING – we plan to provide a light breakfast (donuts, sausage biscuits, and fruit cups) FOR EVERYONE at ALL SERVICES!
 - We will also have an Easter photo backdrop set up in the lobby where you can stop and pose for a photo in your Easter best.

We also want to put 2 events on your radar after Easter:

- Our next **On Ramp Connections Class** will be on Wednesday, April 23 from 6-8pm. If you're new to New Vision, you won't want to miss this opportunity to learn about our church and how you can take the on ramp to faith, baptism, groups, serving, giving, and membership. Dinner and childcare are provided. Text #class to 336-444-6831 or contact the church office to reserve your spot.
- We will have a **Baptism Sunday** on the Sunday following Easter (4/27). If you've never given this visible testimony of your faith in Jesus, consider joining us for a great day of celebrating what Christ has done. Pastor Jeremy likes to meet with all baptismal candidates ahead of time, but we'll also have an opportunity for spontaneous responses with counselors available that morning. Text #baptism to 336-444-6831 or contact the church office to learn more about baptism at New Vision. <https://nvf.life/baptism>

Individual Options for Going Deeper

Check out the following article from Desiring God contemplating why Jesus wept in John 11:35:
<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/why-jesus-wept>