MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK: John 11:25-26
"Jesus said to her, "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?"

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MY NOTES
My Insights / My Questions

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

Read John 11

1. Martha, not Mary, is the first to greet Jesus as he approached Bethany. Earlier (see Luke 10:38-42), Mary was attending to Jesus, and Martha was concerned about other things. Now Martha makes two amazing confessions of faith (v24, 27). How has Martha grown in her spiritual maturity? Write down a few ways that you can continue to grow in your spiritual walk.
2. Martha (v21), Mary (v32) and even some Jews all said the same thing – Jesus could have kept Lazarus from dying. We tend to focus on the immediate yet Jesus focuses on the eternal. In verse 25, there is an "I AM" statement (see memory verse, based on Ex 3:13-14). Who is Jesus?
3. There was no question that Lazarus had died (v39). Yet Jesus calls to Lazarus to "come out" (v43). Clearly Jesus had raised him from the dead. Who else did Jesus raise from the dead (Luke 7:14 and 8:54-55)? The crowd's response then, as now, was split. Some believed (v45), Caiaphas prophesied (v51), and some "made plans to put him to death" (v53). What do you say?

- **Prayer:** ***Jesus, You are my resurrection and my life. Allow me to live as Your child, confident in my resurrection from the dead.***

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

Read John 12

1. What Jewish pilgrimage is approaching? Who objects to Mary's anointing of Jesus? How does the scripture describe him (v4)? God uses even the unrighteous to accomplish His purposes. Who authorized the scourging and crucifixion of Jesus (Matt 27:24)?
2. Lazarus is now a hunted man (v10). Why do the chief priests want to kill him? What has Lazarus done? Are Christians persecuted for their love of Christ even today?
3. Verse 43 summarizes the Pharisees' conflict of faith and priorities. Is this still common? Where and how do people seek their own glory today, their "15 minutes of fame?"

- **Prayer:** ***Lord, help me follow Your path of love with humility, faith, and hope.***

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

Read John 13

1. Maundy Thursday. This term is based on the Latin word mandatum (do you see our word "mandate"?). What was Jesus' mandatum (v34)? How can we, as sinners, follow His mandatum (see John 14:25)
2. How does this mandatum dovetail with the New Covenant that God implements through Jesus?
3. Jesus prophesies Peter's denial (v38) after Peter's rash promise (v 37) which is fulfilled during Jesus' trial. Yet, after His resurrection, Jesus forgives Simon Peter (John 21:15-17). Have you ever failed in your commitment to Jesus? What happened?

- **Prayer:** ***Lord, let me give up my worldly ambitions and be led by your Spirit. Let me love all with the love that You have shown me.***

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

Read John 14

1. Jesus claims another "I AM" (6). Does He allow for the current belief that "any belief will bring you to God if you only believe sincerely enough?" If you have the opportunity to share Jesus, what would you say to someone who believes this?
2. Jesus promises the gift of the Helper, the Holy Spirit (v25). What two things does Jesus promise that the Holy Spirit will do for us?
3. At end of John 14, Jesus essentially says that "class is over, time for action" when He says "Rise, let us go from here." (31). How does this apply to us today? Is it easier to study something, like Evangelism, than to do it?

- **Prayer:** ***Jesus, thank you for calling me into action for You. Allow my day to be filled with Your Joy and Peace and clarity of vision to do Your will.***

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

Read John 15

1. Jesus is showing us the depth of His relationship with us. He now says "I AM" the true vine (v5). What does He promise as a result of His "grafting" our lives into His vine?
2. Jesus repeats His commandment (v12). Why is it so easy to forget? Do you still harbor anger towards a current or ex-spouse, former or current boss, former BFF? How do we get the freedom that Jesus promises (John 8:32)?
3. Jesus quotes Psalm 69:4 "They hated me without a cause." Do you think that Jesus was reassured of His mission by this verse as He went through His trials, flogging, journey to Golgotha and while hanging on the cross? Does this verse comfort you when you are unfairly persecuted?

- **Prayer:** ***Lord, thank you for grafting our lives into Yours. Let me bear Your fruit today in all I think, do, and say. Help me, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, love others as You love them.***

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Read John 16

1. Jesus promises the Helper. Of what three things will He convict the world (v8)? In whose authority does He speak (13). How does the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth? Do you "hear" the voice of the Spirit in your life?
2. Jesus promises us joy (20). CS Lewis described joy thusly: "Joy is distinct not only from pleasure in general but even from aesthetic pleasure. It must have the stab, the pang, the inconsolable longing." Can the world deliver joy? Did Good Friday have "the stab, the pang, the inconsolable longing" of joy for us believers?
3. Jesus says "…, I have overcome the world" (v33). Imagine a photograph of a friend standing at a scenic outlook in North Georgia. The friend is near, the mountains are far but both are in the same picture. Jesus overcame the world as He obeyed His Father during his earthly ministry (near) and has now gone to "prepare a place for us" (far) (John 14:2). Do you see and feel Him near and far in your life? What does Jesus' victory over the world mean to you?

- **Prayer:** ***Jesus, let me feel Your Joy. Let me know Your Joy. Let me share Your Joy.***