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This week we read from the Gospel of John. Today, we mark the 5th week of Lent. Today's Gospel is a beautiful Gospel for the challenges we face at this time in our world. The Bible is a living document. The words contained within it offer us messages of hope and love!

In today's Gospel, Jesus first weeps at the loss of his friend Lazarus. He meets the people who grieve him right where they are - he is sad with them. We read in the Gospel that when Jesus arrived at the place where his friend was buried, **he wept**.

But the story does not end there! Jesus uses this moment to teach Martha and Mary, and all those who have gathered, that Jesus is the Son of God, "***I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.***" Jesus then raises Lazarus from the dead - after he has been wrapped in cloth and laid to rest three days earlier. All are amazed at this miracle!

There are so many messages of hope and joy in this Gospel! Jesus is always with us - in our moments of sadness and when we are frightened. But when we place our trust in Jesus, He will never fail us!

★ FOR MORE FUN ★

Many churches are closed this week. Gather with your family and read this entire Gospel passage. Consider even acting it out. How do you think Martha and Mary felt at different times in this event? What would you say to Jesus if he were sitting beside you today? Jesus is right there with you, as He was with his friends in this Gospel. After you read the Gospel, take a moment to pray to Him about all the things on your heart.

Consider writing a note or a letter to someone you are missing! Be sure to send it by email or even old fashioned snail mail! Brighten someone's day.