

**THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**  
***Dealing with Grief and Heartache***

John 11

In John 11, the writer paints a beautiful portrait of Jesus. In the center of the painting is Jesus as the Resurrection and the Life as Lazarus is brought back from the dead. But around the center of the painting are a number of additional, smaller portraits of Jesus that John wants the reader to grasp as well--especially as we go through times of grief and heartache.

1. Jesus is **IN CONTROL**. (11.4, 6)

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”* Isaiah 55.8-9

2. Jesus **GRIEVES** with us. (11.33-38)

*He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain ... Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering...* Isaiah 53.3-4

*We don’t have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He’s been through weakness and testing, experienced it all...* Hebrews 4.15 MSG

*“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”* Matthew 28.20

3. In every difficult valley Jesus offers us **A GIFT**. (11.25-26)

*“It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering.”*  
Genesis 41.52

*It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart. Frustration is better than laughter because a sad face is good for the heart. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of pleasure.* Ecclesiastes 7:2-4

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.* Romans 8.28

4. Every valley ends so don’t **LOOK BACK** but **LOOK FORWARD**. (11.40)

*...weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.*  
Psalm 30.5

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: ... a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance...* Ecclesiastes 3.1, 4

*For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.* 1 Corinthians 13.12

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**What is God saying to me?**

**What am I going to do about it?**

**Love God, Love Others, Learn Jesus, DO SOMETHING!**

Today’s sermon can be found on our website [beaverdambaptist.org](http://beaverdambaptist.org)