

Nov 14 - John 11 "That's not what love does!?"

1. What are the various ways that we navigate the question - How can there be a good and loving God when there is suffering and evil in the world?

Read John 11

2. (vs. 5-6) The way that John phrases these verses communicates that it is love that motivates Jesus to linger for two more days, allowing Lazarus to die, and not keeping his sisters from grieving. What does this tell us about discerning God's love for us based on our circumstances or our feelings?
3. Why is it that we desire to know the reasons why God allows something and can't leave it in the realm of mystery?
4. What is the expression of Jesus' love toward Martha and Mary?
5. As followers of Jesus we are called to this same ministry of love with one another and with our neighbours. A love of both truth and tears. By temperament we will often lean one way or the other. Which way do you lean by temperament? How would you hope that Jesus would shape you to express his ministry of love toward others in a balanced and wise way?
6. (vs. 38) The Greek word used to express Jesus' emotional state when he approaches the tomb is not one of tears but of anger and rage. It was used of a horse snorting in rage before it entered into battle. What is Jesus angry at? How does this inform your perspective of who Jesus is?
7. Jesus' rage at death that calls Lazarus from the tomb precipitates the religious leaders plotting his demise that leads him to the cross. How does this express to us the magnitude of his love for us?