

JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

ACTIVITY

Materials Needed

- Image of *The Raising of Lazarus*
- Oil pastels (or other art medium available at home).
- Blank piece of paper

Observation

Look at the picture on the following page. Take as much time as you need to really look at it and take in every detail. What is each person doing?

Narration

Put the picture away. From memory, retell the story in the picture and describe the details of the artwork. These details may include: setting of the painting, mood, time of day, colors, action, people.

Re-creation

After remembering the details of the original artwork, look at the picture again. Then put it away again. On a blank piece of paper, recreate the artwork from memory. (Younger children may feel more comfortable just trying to reproduce the image while looking at it).

I WONDER

- I wonder how Mary and Martha felt when Lazarus died while they were waiting for Jesus?
- I wonder why Jesus wept even though he knew Lazarus would raise from the dead?
- I wonder what it was like for Lazarus to hear Jesus calling him by name from outside the tomb?
- I wonder how the people who were mourning reacted when they saw Lazarus coming out of the tomb alive?

DIGGING DEEPER

- If Jesus loved Mary Martha and Lazarus so much, why did he stay two days where he was when he heard Lazarus was sick (Hint: see verse 14)?
- What did Jesus mean when he said: "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."
- Do Mary and Martha seem upset with Jesus? How can you tell that they still trust him?
- What do you think about Jesus' emotions in this story? What does this story tell you about Jesus?
- Has there ever been a time when God made you wait for an answer?



The Raising of Lazarus
Duccio, 1310-1311
Tempera and gold on panel

Art History Note

Duccio di Buoninsegna was an Italian painter in the Middle Ages known for pioneering the Sienese style of painting. *The Raising of Lazarus* is a good example of this style, which uses rich colors, tends to focus on miraculous events, and demonstrates Byzantine influence, particularly in the frequent use of gold (think Eastern Orthodox icons). This piece was one panel of a much larger altarpiece depicting various scenes of Jesus' life called the *Maestà*.