



NEWMARKET COMMUNITY CHURCH

*Connecting people with God
within authentic community
where all are welcome.*

Word Notes: Sunday 26th May 2019

Encounters: Who can put it right?

Note to discussion leader- There are quite a few questions to discuss this week, so I have split them into two parts. If you know that your group tends to struggle to get through more than a few questions, choose just one of the two parts to focus on. It would be a good idea to pray about which is right for your group.

We live in a broken world, with broken people. Who can put it right? Jesus. End of discussion ☺

Why him? What's so special about Jesus anyway? Let's aim to get to know him a little better as we look at an encounter between him and a family he was very close to. This family has two sisters, Mary and Martha, and a brother, Lazarus.

- Read John 11:1-44

Part 1

- Mary and Martha appear in other stories in the Bible. Read Luke 10:38-42 and John 12:1-3
- How would you describe Mary and Martha's different personalities?
- How does Jesus' response when he meets Martha (v21-27) differ from Jesus' response when he meets Mary (v32-33)? Why do you think his response varies?
- What does this say to you about how Jesus relates to each of us?

Part 2

- What is Jesus' emotional response to the situation in verses 33, 35 and 38? (NB the word translated "deeply moved" in the NIV, could also be translated as "angry")
- What do you think prompts each of these emotions in Jesus?
- Read ahead from verses 45-53. What happens as a consequence of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead?
- To call us out of the grave, Jesus chooses to take himself into the grave. How does this make you feel?
- In v 44 Jesus commands "Take off the grave clothes and let him go!" Is there an area in your life where you are still wearing grave clothes? With the encouragement of your group, will you heed the command to take off the grave clothes?