

# Meditations On The Love Of God

21-day series

## meditations on the love of god

GOD IS LOVE



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## Practical steps for each day

### **1. FIND A COMFORTABLE POSITION.**

-Find yourself a comfortable position for you to spend the next 15 minutes. This could be a chair that can become your 'God chair' or it could be simply taking a comfortable position on the floor, either sitting or kneeling.

### **2. ELIMINATE DISTRACTIONS.**

-Where possible find a silent place – close the door, leave your phone outside, remove the noise.

### **3. CLOSE YOUR EYES AND BREATHE.**

-Closing your eyes and breathing deeply helps you to focus and consolidate all your energy on this time of prayer. Before you begin to read the day's meditation take five deep breaths with your eyes closed.

### **4. OPEN YOUR EYES AND READ THROUGH THE DAY'S MEDITATION.**

-Read through the passage of Scripture as many times as you wish. Let the words sink in. Then read through the attached meditation which is designed to lead you to a place of surrender.

-Having read through the meditation, spend some time in prayer, concentrating on the thoughts that have been pulled out of the passage.

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Day 14 - Jesus and Lazarus

## Day 14: Jesus and Lazarus

### **PAUSE—**

Close your eyes. Take a moment to still your mind and draw your scattered senses onto the presence of God. He is with you today, and He loves you.

### **BREATHE—**

Take five slow deep breaths, in and out. Allow your mind to clear as you focus on your breathing.

### **READ—**

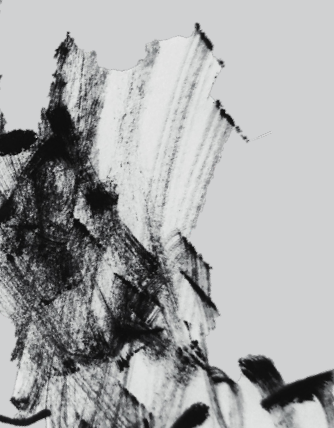
Read today's passage once or twice through, out loud if it helps.

*"A man named Lazarus was sick. He lived in Bethany with his sisters, Mary and Martha. So the two sisters sent a message to Jesus telling him, 'Lord, your dear friend is very sick.' When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days. Then Jesus shouted, 'Lazarus, come out!' And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, 'Unwrap him and let him go!'"*

**John 11:1, 3, 17, 43-44**

### **REFLECT—**

Reflect carefully on the words in this passage. What do they mean? Take a moment to consider the fact that God's timing can often appear confusing, but we are called to trust him regardless.



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## THINK—

Allow your understanding of these words to deepen as you contemplate this truth further. Read the thought below and allow it to resonate with your spirit.

I wonder if you've ever felt like God's timing has been different to yours? So often in life we can be crying out for God to come through to do a miracle, but he just seems to be... silent. This disappointment is likely what Mary and Martha would have felt. They had told Jesus that their brother Lazarus was sick and probably on the verge of death, they were desperate for Jesus to act and act quickly. Yet Jesus stayed where he was for two days before he began making his way to Lazarus and, by the time he arrived, Lazarus had been dead for four days.

For many reasons our relationship with God is unlike any other relationship that we have in life, and due to the fact that we can't see God it's often difficult when he doesn't act in the way that we would expect. Faith, however, is a decision to trust in the sovereignty of God, knowing that although his ways are different to our ways, he loves us, he cares for us and he is with us – even when it feels like the opposite.



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Day 14 - Jesus and Lazarus

Meditate today on the areas of life where you are struggling to see God at work or where you think God may be too late to meet your need. Surrender those fragile areas to the careful and caring God, resting in his love and his peace. Know today that he is with you, he is for you, and he loves you more than you know. He is never late, nor too early, but works everything together for good.

### **PRAY—**

*God, thank you that I can trust you, even when it doesn't seem to make sense. Thank you that your ways are higher than mine. Help me to keep trusting you. Amen.*

