

“....We pray for the bifocals of faith - that see the despair and the need of the hour but also see, further on, the patience of our God working out His plan in the world he has made.”

- Peter Marshall

U.S. Senate Chaplain

Another Painful Decision

John 11:1-44

- What is the situation Jesus found when He *finally* arrived in Bethany?
- What elements of faith and doubt do you find in Martha's statements to Jesus (vv. 21-27, 39)?
- How does the Lord's response to the grief evident in verses 32 – 36 reveal His relationship with those who suffer?

Another Painful Decision

John 11:1-44

- In what ways should Jesus' teaching about eternal life influence our long-range goals and priorities?
- From verses 38 – 44, what benefit did Jesus' delay have for His ministry, for Martha and Mary, and for Lazarus?

Another Painful Decision

- Application
 - Is there a danger in following a routine of merely obvious actions and decisions?
 - Do we lose blessings by acting on our own initiative and following prescribed patterns?

Seek God's plan through prayer.

Next Week:
Community Guidance

Acts 5:33 – 6:7