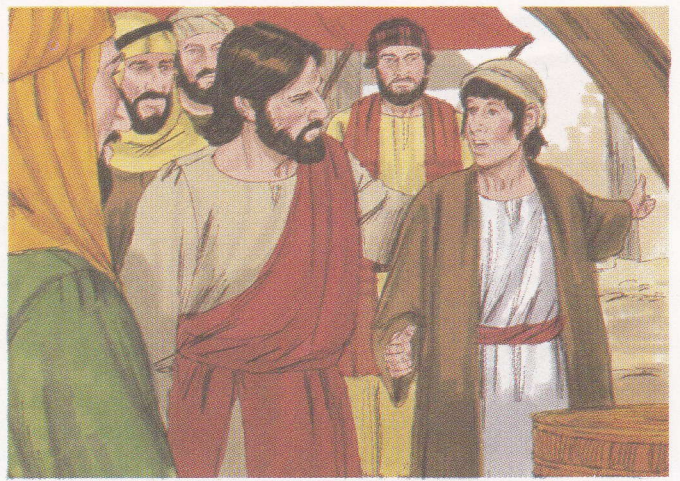


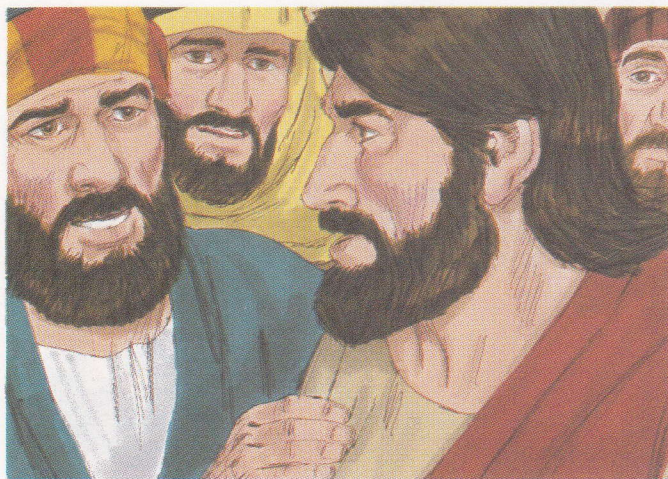
Lazarus Is Raised



1 Some friends of Jesus lived in Bethany, about two miles from Jerusalem. They were Mary and Martha, two sisters, and their brother Lazarus.



2 One day Jesus received a message from the sisters. It said: "Lord, the one you love is sick." But Jesus waited for two days before he said to the disciples, "Let's go to Judea."



3 The disciples said, "But just a short time ago the Jews tried to stone you there. Why do you want to go back?" Thomas said, "Well, let us go, too, so that we may die with him."



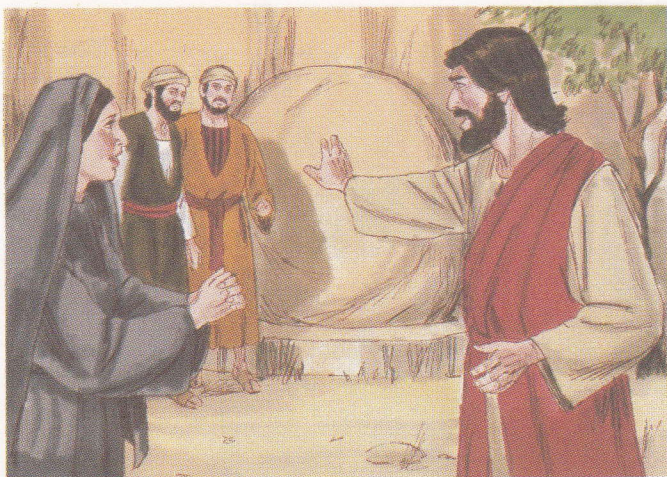
4 Martha went out to meet Jesus as he neared Bethany. She said, "Lord, if you had only been here, my brother would not have died. But I know even now that God will do whatever you ask."



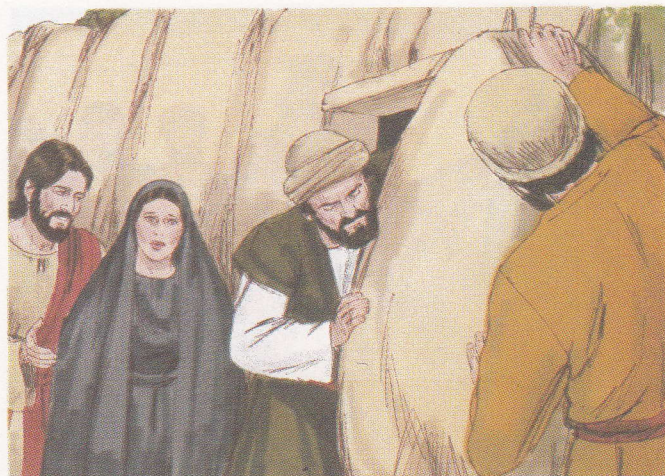
5 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies. Do you believe this?" "Yes," she said. "I believe you are the Son of God."



6 Then Martha called Mary, who fell at Jesus' feet and said, "If you had been here, Lord, my brother would not have died." Jesus was deeply moved by their grief. He cried, too.



7 Then they took him to the cave where Lazarus was buried. Jesus commanded, "Take away the stone." "But Lord," Martha said, "it has been four days. By now there will be a bad smell."



8 Jesus replied, "Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone.



9 Jesus lifted up his eyes and prayed. "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I know you always hear me, but I have said this so that these people may believe you have sent me."



10 Then Jesus called out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"



11 And Lazarus came out, his hands and feet still wrapped with strips of linen and with a cloth around his face! "Take off the grave clothes and let him go," Jesus ordered.



12 Many of those who saw this believed in him. But others reported it to the Pharisees, who called a meeting of the Jewish Council. From that day on they made plans to kill Jesus.