



**DATE** June 9, 2019

**SPEAKER** Paul Clark

**TITLE** Raising of Lazarus

**SERIES** Jesus said and did a lot of memorable, meaningful and miraculous things during His life on earth. Each one of those things revealed something different about Him, but do they prove that Jesus is who He says He is?

In today's sermon, Pastor Paul concluded the Prove It sermon series with a look into one of Jesus' most important miracles—the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Not only is this story full of the proof of Jesus being able to raise us to new life in him, but it is full of encouragement to help you in your struggles.

1. How do the people who witnessed this event (i.e., the disciples, the Jews, the Pharisees) feel and think about Jesus with the raising of Lazarus? Imagine you had witnessed this event. What type of impact would it have on you?
2. How do you think this event impacted the life of Lazarus after Jesus brought him back to life?
3. What other Scriptures do you know that use the word “beloved” to show how much Jesus loves us? What if this identity of being Jesus' beloved shaped your sense of self?
4. Read John 5:24-29. What do you learn about Jesus' perspective on death from this passage?
5. Have you had a time when you had to understand the difference between DELAY and DENIAL?
6. Jesus wept along with Mary in John 11:35. What difference does it make to you that Jesus understands our pain and suffering?
7. In John 11:4, Jesus says that Lazarus' sickness would not end in death, but that God's glory would be seen through it. What comfort does knowing death is not the final word give you?
8. Pastor Paul began and ended today's sermon by asking us, what if Jesus looked *you* in the face and asked “Do you believe this?” How would you feel? Would you answer like Martha in the story, saying along with her, “Yes, Lord. I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world” (John 11:27, NIV).

The Prove It sermon series was all about the miracles Jesus performed. John wrote about these miracles so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah (John 20:30-31). Paul wrote in Romans 10:9-10, “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.” And as Pastor Paul said today, it really is that simple. Do you believe this? Weep on your knees with Jesus like Mary. Let Martha's declaration be your own. Declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and walk out of that grave like Lazarus.