

Unwrapping a New Life

Part two of the series, "Wrapped in Love"

Saturday, December 10, 2022 | Pastor Parris Hayashi

"Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.' ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?' ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.' ⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' ⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'" (John 11:32-44 ESV)

Insurmountable odds often become a BACKDROP for the glory of God.

"Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.'" (v. 38-39)

BELIEVING in Jesus restores and unwraps lives that are bound up.

"Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?'" (v. 40)

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷She said to him, 'Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.'" (John 11:25-27 ESV)

There is something God does, and there is something WE do.

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